THE NEW GENESEE FARMER

AND GARDENER'S JOURNAL.

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Triumphant Success.

We congratulate the friends of this paper, on the success which has thus far attended the 2d Volume. We commenced the year with an edition of 20,000 copies, and some of our friends thought it was too great a number, but present appearances indicate that we were not mistaken; for if the friends of the cause continue to exert themselves, as they have done the past two months, this large edition will soon all be circulated; and then who can estimate the amount of good that our monthly messenger may accomplish?

Have patience with us. Owing to the flood of letters, which daily pour in upon us, we are sometimes compelled to defer attention to them for a day or two; and sometimes (though not often) names are not entered correctly. We regret these evils and endeavor to avoid them, and hope, therefore, our friends will not scold too severely, or *tax us postage* on their complaints. Postmasters, when requested, will generally inform us of inaccuracies.

Some of our subscribers complain that their papers do not reach them till some days after the 1st of the month. *We cannot help it.* We wish to obtain the reports of the Markets, &c., up to the 1st, and therefore cannot go to press earlier. Then, notwithstanding we use a Power Press, it takes quite a number of days to work off so large an edition. The whole are mailed as fast as possible, and should all reach the subscribers before the middle of the month.

Post Masters and agents in Canada, who wish to send us instructions respecting the direction of the papers, are requested to direct their letters to the Post Master at this place; otherwise we are subjected to postage.

Post Masters and Agents are particularly requested to write the name of the Post Office, County, and *State*. It is sometimes almost impossible to decide *what State* the place mentioned is located in.

Uncurrent Money.

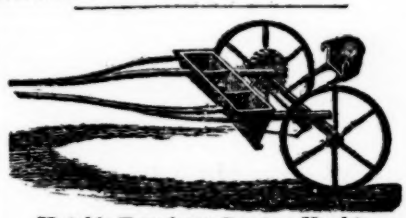
Bills on solvent Banks in this, and the Eastern States, are at par with us. Canada, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, are 5 to 10 per cent discount.—Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, and Illinois money, is 6 to 8 per cent.; and Michigan is 12½ per cent. discount.

We hope our friends at a distance will take pains to send us the best money they can obtain. We do not *refuse* any of the above, when sent us free of postage, and nothing deducted for commission; but the amount paid by us for discount during the year, is a serious item

Monroe County Agricultural Society.

By a notice in another column it will be seen that the Genesee Agricultural Society, organized in this city last year, and intended to embrace several counties, is now to be confined to this county, and called "The Monroe County Agricultural Society." The reasons for this change are numerous. When this was organized, there was no society in Genesee, Ontario, or Wayne counties, but now each of these have societies of their own, and other counties are expected to organize. Besides, it is expected that some aid will be granted by the Legislature, and if so the law will confine the societies to single counties.

The Petitions are daily presented to the Legislature, and if any persons have petitions with signatures in their hands, they should send them in without delay. No report has yet been made on the subject, but doubtless soon will be.



Hatch's Broadcast Sowing Machine.

This machine has been exhibited at several Fairs, and used on several farms in Western New York the past fall, and has been spoken of in high terms of praise. It is calculated for sowing all kinds of grain, broadcast, and is particularly valuable for sowing lime or plaster.

Mr. Hatch, the inventor, is now in Rochester, making arrangements for building machines. We intend to give a more particular account of it next month.

"Rochester Seed Store Catalogue"—1841.

The annual Catalogue of the Rochester Seed Store is sent as an extra with this number of the Farmer, and should be preserved by our readers. The agents named for the sale of seeds in other places, will receive their supplies in a very few days.—Catalogues are sent gratis to all applicants.

Hints for the Month.

Every farmer should be able, if not already so, to answer the following questions in the affirmative:—

Is your stove and other wood, for use next summer, all cut and piled up for seasoning? And have you plenty of wood seasoning for next winter's use? Are your chips all collected and secured for fuel?

Are your tools, for the approaching campaign in farming, all in first rate order?—your ploughs with good points, beams sound, handles firm?—your rakes and harrows with teeth, your hoes and forks with handles?—your harness in good repair, and well oiled?

Are your tools all the best of their kind, so that the additional work they will perform, will pay for themselves ten times over before next fall?

Are you provided as far as practicable against borrowing tools?

Is there a place for every thing, and every thing in its place, so that you need not waste the richest portions of your time next summer in fruitless searches?

Are your farming implements all well painted where needed, to preserve them from decay?

Are your fences all in good repair—loose rails laid up—low fences made higher—board fences well nailed—stone walls not tumbling?

Are your cellars kept clean and pure?—your roots in them in good sound condition?—your apples kept assorted, the decayed from the sound?

Are the water furrows in your wheat-fields kept open and deep, so that you may not loose bushels of wheat by the want of as many minutes work?

Are your grafts cut—the best kinds chosen—your grafting plasters made?

Is the additional attention given to cattle and sheep, especially to the latter, which this critical period of the year requires?—the feed increased, the quality improved?

Have you procured the plaster you intend to s w, so as to have it on the grass early, that it may receive the full benefit?

Are your farm and garden seeds all procured?

Do you understand the best way to make and save manure—that steam engine of farming operations—and if not, have you endeavored by reading and observation to find out?

Most farmers will perhaps be busy this month in preparing to answer the above affirmatively, after which we should be glad to make further suggestions.

Those of our readers who wish directions on gardening for this month, are referred to the copious instructions on the subject given in this paper the last year.

Board Fence.

There are three methods of making board fence, all of which without doubt are familiar to our readers; but our motive for describing them here, is for the purpose of comment.

The simplest kind is made by setting the posts, and nailing on the boards—nothing more. It is deficient in strength, and ought never to be adopted nor recommended.

The second kind is made by adding a strip on the top of the posts, which adds materially to the strength of the fence; but it affords no protection from the rain either to the nails or to that part of the boards that are in contact with the posts. In consequence of being thus exposed to the wet, the wood decays, the nails rust, and in a few years dilapidation commences. *

The best kind of board fence resembles the latter method, by having a strip on the top of the posts; but it reaches far enough in front to cover upright strips which are fastened by nails passing through the boards into the posts. These protect the joints and most of the nails from the wet. This kind of fence is not only very strong, but very durable; and not liable to get out of order if a nail or two should chance to be defective, as the upright strip must give way before the boards can fall down, or get out of place. The additional expense may be considered as *insurance*.

There is another kind of insurance however, that should not be forgotten: This is plugging the posts with salt. In 1824 William Phillips, of Philadelphia county, wrote to the secretary of the Pennsylvania Agricultural Society as follows:—

"In 1803 I planted four gate posts of Delaware oak, of very inferior quality; a two inch auger hole was bored *through* them, filled with salt, and plugged at both ends. As they were to support highly finished gates, they were cased with boards, and some salt put inside of the case near the ground. *The posts are now as sound as when put down*, and bid fair to last for some generations to come."

We should presume however, that posts already set, or to be set, would not require to be bored *through*, if the direction of the auger be properly gauged; and then one plug would answer. †

Preservation of Woodlands.

In looking round the country, we find the most common management of wood-lots to be as follows: Cattle and sheep are allowed to range through them; and all young trees within their reach which they are fond of browsing, such as the maple, the basswood, or the elm, are effectually destroyed. Oak and hickory also suffer; and between being overshadowed by large trees and nipped by live stock, they soon become worthless and stunted even if they survive.

In the mean time the axe and the tempest are gradually thinning the primeval array of the forest. A sound tree is wanted for a sill or a beam; or the necessary supply of rails for the farm; and declining ones are prostrated by the storm, or cut for fire wood. As the residue stand more distant from each other, the leaves which formerly supplied an annual covering for the roots, are now swept away by the winds; the grass gets possession; and though young trees will often flourish in the open pasture, old trees which have always stood in the crowded forest, cramped and confined in their roots, are not prepared for the change; and the lot from a wood gradually becomes a shady pasture.

Yet it is necessary for landed proprietors to look forward to the next generation; and our advice would be: Inclose your woodlands, allowing no live stock to run through it that can damage the smallest tree; for though there may be a *convenience* sometimes in violating this rule, yet it will be *paid for* at a dear rate; and it will be cheaper to hire pasture of a neighbor even at a high price. Let this inclosure be sacred from all intrusion of the kind.

But large trees and small ones will not flourish together; and when large trees are felled there is frequently a destructive smashing among the juniors of the wood. When the farmer therefore wants rails and fire-wood, let him cut down a portion annually, say a quarter or a half an acre, sparing nothing that he finds on the ground, but let the axe and the brush-hook perform their respective parts. Even saplings will make durable rails, if cut at the right season—not of the moon but of the sun,—in summer, autumn, or the early part of winter; and then the young growth will have nothing to overshadow it. On the reverse, it will soon overshadow the whole ground, retain the leaves as they fall, and have their roots protected from the cold of winter, and the heat and drought of summer.

We believe it is not an uncommon opinion that oak, chestnut, or hickory lands, are the only kinds worth preserving for an undergrowth; but we have never seen a more thrifty wood than one that was principally maple, elm, ash, butternut, and basswood. The latter kinds indeed are more injured by cattle than the former; but when they have not been destroyed, and have *a clear field*, their growth is very rapid. †

Working Butter.

It has been a custom in our family, time out of mind, *not to use any water in working butter*, under the impression that the latter would be injured by such contact, and disposed to become rancid. Instead therefore of *washing out the buttermilk*, it is carefully worked out with a wooden ladle. The following extract from the account of the Holstein dairy system lately copied into the New Genesee Farmer,* will explain the whole affair. We copy it again lest some of our readers might pass it without notice.

"The churning being completed, the butter is taken off by means of a large wooden ladle, and carried in a tub directly to the butter cellar, where, in a large trough, very smoothly polished off inside, and provided with a plug hole at the lower extremity, the butter is slightly worked, and salted with the purest salt; then moulded with a wooden ladle into a mass at the upper end of the trough, and left for some hours to drain. In the evening it is thoroughly beat or rather slapped.—

"The butter in Holstein is seldom if ever *washed*, as water is believed not only *to rob it of its richness and flavor*, but as being itself susceptible of putrefaction," and inimical to the preservation of the butter. †

* Volume 2, page 3.

Florist.

From Eaton's Botanical Dictionary modernized for 1840 we copy the following:—

"FLORIST. One whose employment is that of creating monsters; that is double and various colored; as carnations, double roses, &c."

Folks who are fond of queer things will be pleased with this definition; but those who look more gravely at such matters, may wonder how it ever found its way into a Dictionary of Scientific terms! They may even be inclined to think it not only vituperative but unjust; and unfortunately the learned professor has furnished his old friends with no evidence to the contrary.

As early as the year 1832, * we ventured to call his attention to this impropriety—for so we must consider it; and indulged the hope for a time that he had profited by our admonition. Were we mistaken? We will state the facts: Its *tail* has been snipped off, but the *nucleous* is left to shine with its original splendor.

Some sort of an apology might possibly have been invented, if the Dictionary had contained a notice of other professions, such as *botanist, horticulturist, &c.*, but nothing of the kind has been found; and we apprehend that some will not resist the impression that he has run off the track to have a cut at vegetable "monsters."

A more serious view of the matter however may be taken. Was the learned professor in the line of his duty, as an *instructor of the young*, when he wrote that definition? It is a caricature, uncalled for, and unworthy of such a place. The *true* definition, which we copy from Webster, is as follows:—

"FLORIST. A cultivator of flowers; one skilled in flowers." †

Field Beets.

A respected correspondent at page 23, ascribes the loss of his beet crop to their having been planted so late as "May 24th;" but we did not plant our Mangel Wurtzel (Vol. 1, p. 130) until about the 7th of the month following; and we think that if he had seen them a short time before they were gathered, he would have spoken more favorably of the beet culture.

There is a great difference between the labor necessary to secure a crop of potatoes and a crop of beets. In topping the latter we used no knife; but wrenched off the leaves with our hands—a much more expeditious way; and the beets scarcely required any digging. A great proportion of them came up very easily; and we filled our corn baskets long before a potato digger would have unearthed half the quantity.

That experiment of ours which ran counter to the opinions of some good farmers in several particulars, and succeeded in all of them,—has given us much satisfaction. The *time* of planting however, was later than we would recommend, except in a case of necessity like our own; but the exemption from hard frosts until late in autumn, was most favorable,—for they were not gathered till in the 11th month. In some years undoubtedly they would have been damaged by such exposure.

We think one cause of our success was in the *scalding*, which hastened the germination of the seeds. They were put into a vessel containing about two quarts which was then filled with *boiling water*, and left to stand for several days. Those who are afraid of hot water however, may use that which is only tepid; but we would earnestly recommend that the seed in no case, be planted dry or without soaking.

Another cause of our success was in using *fresh manure from the stable in all its rankness;* and we hope that the practice of our friend "SENECA" * on this point, as well as our own experiment, will remove all fears in regard to this important auxiliary. †

Trimming Orchards.

This is a very necessary and important operation. Large apples of the same sort are better than small ones, not only on account of the size, but the flavor is more perfectly developed,—especially when they grow well exposed to the sun and air. Our rule is, the higher the color, the higher the flavor, of that particular kind. Now when the branches become crowded and proportionately stunted, we have no right to expect fine fruit; and the only remedy is judicious pruning.

Writers have differed in regard to the best time of performing this operation, some preferring the winter

* Some persons paint their fences, and then a part of this objection is removed. For farm fences, however, this process is too expensive; though sometimes those parts of the boards and posts that come in contact are painted—a very judicious precaution. If throwing hot nails into oil, prevents their rusting, a board fence is the very place to try them.

* Genesee Farmer, volume 2, page 77.

* New Genesee Farmer, volume 1, page 147. He would render our journal more interesting by using his own proper signature; and we earnestly request that all our correspondents do the same.

season, and some the summer. Both seasons are favorable, but the sooner it is done the better. If any farmer from indulging in theory should prefer the latter period, let him first consider how it will agree with his other business; and if it should appear clearly that he will have nothing to interrupt him when summer comes, well and good—let him defer it till that time. If on the contrary, should his corn-field, or potatoes, mending roads, or any other service, be likely to interfere,—let him make up his mind at once, to do it now before the sap begins to flow, if possible; and remember that a coat of paint over the stumps of the larger limbs when amputated, is worth more than all the theory that has been invented.

Now a few words in regard to the manner. Cut the under side of large limbs *first*, to prevent them from splitting down; and in cutting of all limbs, whether large or small, be careful to have as little naked wood as possible,—leaving it very smooth, neither jagged, nor split, nor haggled. For this purpose, the saw is the proper instrument on most of the large limbs; though a broad chisel on the end of a pole, and even the axe in dextrous hands may be used in some situations; but then let none but dextrous hands touch it. Most of the trimming in our orchards, is miserably done. †

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Experiments in Feeding Beets.

Messrs. Editors—Every writer who intends his articles for publication, particularly in giving experiments which may induce others to make a similar trial, should be very careful in giving the detail; also, that he has not been deceived *himself*, lest he deceive others. It frequently happens, that different individuals arrive at different conclusions in making the same experiments, (I mean experiments like the one at the head of this article.) For instance, my friend, D. T. stated to me, some one or two years since, that he considered mangel wurtzel a valuable crop for wintering swine. He said, "he had fed them to his as their principal food. They were very fond of them, and kept in good condition through the winter." The past fall and present winter, I have endeavored to test the value of various kinds of beets as food for store hogs, and am fully convinced that they are the *cheapest*, and, at the same time, as good keep as can be raised for wintering swine. I fed them to my fatting hogs, for their first feed in the fall. I washed and boiled them, mashed them fine in the liquor they were boiled in; then, after standing a few days, fed them to my hogs. They ate them with great avidity, and gained flesh as fast as they afterwards did, fed on new corn in the ear. I did not, however, feed them long enough (some 8 or 10 days) fairly to test their value, as food for fattening porkers.

Samuel Guthrie, in an article headed, "Experiment in feeding Sugar Beets," (Cult. & Far., Vol. 1. page 113,) says, "I washed and boiled the beets, and fed them profusely for two weeks. The hogs devoured them most ravenously; but, on making a careful examination at the end of this time, to ascertain the progress I had made in fattening them, I learned, to my surprise, that they evidently had gained nothing. One large sow put on an appearance so wo-begone, that I induced a charitable friend to take her off my hands free gratis." The experiment was carried still further, by adding a peck of potatoes to a bushel of beets, and tried two weeks longer, but the improvement was barely perceptible. Then potatoes and beets, in equal quantities, were fed one month more, when they had gained about as much as the potatoes alone would have improved them. "I had now," he says, "17 hogs left, including two beautiful Berkshires, of full blood, &c. As I had provided little else than beets for their sustenance, and as I had determined to give the root a fair trial, I continued to feed them, adding corn and bran, as seemed indispensable, through the winter. This spring I have 14 left, having lost three during the winter; all of which, except the two Berkshires, are miserably poor. These Berkshires, without, to my knowledge, having fared better than the rest, have not apparently suffered at all, but are in fine condition. I attribute this, in *some measure*, to their domineering spirit, and to their greater industry; for they are intolerable monopolists, and in perpetual action." Something then depends on the *breed*; for had they *all* been Berkshires, we may infer they would all have been "in fine condition" in the spring. Three died during the winter! Did they *starve* to death? Or may we infer that they were diseased, or had not a comfortable shelter to keep off the pelting storms and drifting snow of winter?

"Much depends on the breed, as every farmer knows; much on the health of the animal; something on the season of the year. I failed in attempting to fatten several swine in one case, though they were carefully attended, and various kinds of feed tried; and the failure was totally inexplicable until they were slaughtered, when the intestines were found corroded with worms, resembling those found in the human stomach; and this, I have no doubt, prevented their thrift. The same fact has occurred in another instance, and with the same result. I failed in attempting to fatten some other swine, which had been driven a considerable distance and exposed (probably not half fed on the road) to severe cold and storms."*

My store hogs were fed for some weeks on beets alone. Not having a full supply, I have fed them, of late, alternately with beets, potatoes, and corn, all in the raw state. The beets and corn they eat with the same greediness, but the potatoes are a drug. They squeal over them for some time, and then reluctantly eat about half their ration. Another fall I intend to lay in largely for mangel wurtzel and sugar beet, and shall, the coming season, cultivate them accordingly.

I had supposed it to be an established fact, that cattle would fatten if fed sufficiently on beets. But Samuel Guthrie's experience (in the article above referred to) is in the negative. He says, "To one cow, designed for slaughter, I fed some forty bushels in thirty days, and this without making any perceptible improvement in the condition of the animal." I shall have to refer to my friend D. T. again. He tells me he has fattened a beef, this winter, principally on beets. "For the fattening of a bullock, forty or fifty pounds of beets per day, mixed with five or six pounds of dry fodder, will accomplish the object in four months. Care must be taken to give it in three separations, since by feeding often and in small quantities at a time, the same amount of nutriment goes farther." †

Since writing the above, the 1st No. of the 2d. vol. of your valuable paper has come to hand. I was much gratified to find an article [page 11, copied from a "Western paper"] on "Beets for Cattle." The comparative value of beets and potatoes, as food for cattle, I am of the opinion, is rightly estimated. The writer says, "In feeding the same animal with beets, it was easily told that one third less than of turnips or potatoes, would make them give the same quantity of milk of better quality, and *they showed better keep*." The same writer also says, "Young animals [cattle] are peculiarly found of the raw beets, and *thrive astonishingly on them*." Exactly the same with swine. Farmers, store well your cellars with beets, and make a fair trial. Feed your store hogs and cattle on them one winter, and you will be convinced of their value, and cultivate them accordingly.

J. B. BOWEN.

Aurora, Cayuga Co., January 20, 1840.

* Gen. Far., Vol. 4, page 261. From the transactions of the Essex Agricultural Society on swine. Henry Colman.
† Gen. Far., Vol. 5, page 3. Bib. Univ. for 1831.

To the Editors of the New Genesee Farmer:—

Gentlemen—On reading an article in the January number of your paper, headed *Effects of the Stock on grafted Fruit Trees*, in which you comment on remarks contained in a late number of the Yankee Farmer, by the editor of that Journal, on the above subject, in which he lays down the following propositions, viz:—

"1 Stocks have an effect as to bearing years.
2. Stocks affect the scion in hastening or retarding the ripening of the fruit.
3. Stocks produce defects on grafted fruit.
4. Stocks affect the color of fruit.
5. Stocks affect the quality of fruit.
6. Stocks have an influence in increasing or decreasing the size of fruit."

And, as you observe, the subject is not new to horticulturists—Dr. Mease, of Philadelphia, affirming such influence some years ago, and reviewed by you at the time, in the 3d vol. of the old Genesee Farmer; and not thinking the evidence conclusive, and having seen nothing since to change your opinion, you express your willingness to examine the subject anew with candor and fairness; and you commence in the right way, by stating the results of your own practice and observation.

In addressing you on this subject, I beg to inform you it is one I have been closely connected with upwards of sixteen years in England and this country, the greater part in the former, and the result of my conclusions are the reverse of yours.

In quoting Professor Lindley in support of your opinion, I think the statement quoted does not go far enough in support of the subject under consideration.

Though the food communicated from the alburnum of the Quince to the Pear, is in nearly the same state as when it entered the roots of the former, it does not follow that the quantity received would be equal to that communicated through the alburnum of a Pear stock, and hence the austerity of the former, and the luxuriance of the latter. Before I quit this part of the subject, it will be well to state, though it is a fact known to most horticulturists, that in all English nurseries, a certain number (sufficient to meet the demands of the establishment) of Pears are worked on the Quince annually, and Apples on the Paradise stocks (a sort of dwarf apple or crab, used as stocks, especially for the premature fruiting of the apple, and the influence it has on the scion to form a dwarf tree or bush) for Espaliers and dwarf. Standards, to plant in the borders of the principal walks in the kitchen garden, where they form a counterpart to the trees trained on the garden walls and add much to the general effect of the garden, and are to be seen in most of the gardens of England; and I never knew an instance of their failing to exercise the desired influence, namely, dwarf habits, premature fruiting, and premature ripening their fruit. Consequently, (though the fruit is mostly fine, if attention is paid to pruning the trees and thinning the fruit when too thick,) the specimens are never so fine as those obtained from trees worked on the thrifty Pear stock, and common Apple or crab stock—which trees are generally reserved for the orchard, with occasionally something choice for an open space in the garden. Instances are not rare in England, (where the climate is not so favorable to the maturing of the finer varieties of the Flemish Pear as the United States, &c. &c.) when trees are not fertile, (I mean Pears,) although in a flourishing state of growth, scions have been taken off and worked on the Quince Stock, and they have assumed fertile habits and bore plentifully. I believe the above includes proposition 2, 5, 6.

By the first proposition is meant (as I understand it) bearing in alternate years, a subject which I think the stock has no influence whatever. On this head I believe we agree, and as you observe, it is a habit chiefly

confined to apples, and always to the late fall and winter apples; summer and early harvest varieties almost invarinbly being regular bearers, for this reason: they mature their fruit and get rid of their burden in time to recruit strength, make shoots and form buds for the next year's crop; whereas the over burdened winter apple tree holds on to its fruit as long as its foliage, and consequently requires the next year to rest, to recruit its exhausted strength, and form buds, &c., to produce fruit. In my opinion, this is a part of the subject worthy of paying more attention to than is generally paid; and if people who have young orchards, or only a few trees around their door yards, were to take the trouble to thin out the young apples to one or two to a bunch, on observing their young trees assuming these habits, the result would be, the fruit left on would be so much larger and finer, that the quantity would be increased in bulk, though not in number, to as much as if they were all left on, and the buds, divested of the young fruit, would have time to form fruit buds for the next year; and by pursuing this system for a few years, when trees first come into bearing, much may be done to alter the system of bearing in alternate years.

In reference to proposition No. 3, in my opinion, if a stock is diseased, it will communicate it to the scion, and consequently affect the future tree; for instance, I think suckers, or layers, or even seedlings, raised from fruit of diseased trees, will communicate the disease of the parent stock to any scion that may be worked on to it. This I have observed always to be the general rule, though occasionally an exception.

Respecting proposition No. 4, I am not ready to enter into at present. And finally, respecting your currant bushes. We frequently see currant bushes and other trees, partly in a state of decay, whilst the other part flourished luxuriantly; and in the case of the parent stock of your bushes, though apparently in good health when slips or cuttings were taken off, may, if left on, show the disease in some of those identical shoots taken off the following year; but being taken off, it appears in the individual plants, and consequently the superiority of some of your currant bushes over the others.

ONE OF YOUR SUBSCRIBERS.

Orange Co., 1841.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

PEARS.

Who is not fond of good pears? To my taste there is no fruit, not even that of tropical climes, equal to a luscious, melting pear. Few of our farmers know any thing about good pears. Most of this fruit cultivated by them, is of very inferior quality, and yet considered good by those who know of no better. But very little is cultivated. Many are discouraged from undertaking to raise pears, from the idea that it takes a man his life time almost, to obtain fruit by setting out young trees. This idea is very erroneous in reference to *grafted* trees. Though it takes a pear tree from twelve to fifteen years to bear from the *seed*, yet the *graft*, taken from a bearing tree, will bear as soon as any other kind of fruit—in two or three years.

In the spring of 1837 the writer received scions of several choice varieties of pears from Messrs. Kenrick, D. Thomas, J. A. Lazelle, and others, which were then engrafted, mostly on small trees set out that spring. In 1839 several of them bore a few, and last year some of them bore plentifully. Among these were the Julienne or Bloodgood, Madeline, Bartlett, Henry Fourth, Passe Colmar, Beurre Diel, Lemon Pear of Scotland, Bezi de La Motte, Capiamont, (so called, but not the true Capiamont,) Heathcot, Winter Nelis, and Prince's Virgalieu. Most of these prove to be excellent. The *Julienne*, ripening the latter part of July, is good, but hardly equal to the Madeline, which is larger and ripens about the same time. The *Bartlett*, which Kenrick thinks is the same as the Williams' Bon chretien, is a most capital pear, ripe in Sept., large, buttery, and of a high musky flavor, sound at the core. *Henry Fourth*, one of the new Belgian pears raised by Dr. Van Mons is truly *excellent*; ripening in October, of moderate size, buttery, resembling very much in flavor the Seckel, though not so sweet, and like this, growing in clusters. It must be eaten as soon as it becomes mellow. It is, in eating, a little before the Virgalieu. *Passe Colmar* is described as one of the very best pears originated by Van Mons. It sustains its character, though to some tastes it would be considered too sweet. It resembles, in flavor, a rich citron or pine apple melon. It is a winter pear, of medium size, growing in clusters, and a great bearer. *Beurre Diel* is another of the New Belgian pears, and a noble one it is; large buttery, and fine flavored. Though described as a *winter* pear, it can hardly be called such, as it was in eating in November. *Lemon pear of Scotland* is a good sized, handsome fruit, ripening in October and November; yellow at maturity; buttery, with an agreeable acid; not high flavored, but a good pear. *Bezi de La Motte* is an old but good variety; ripe in November, it is of good size; buttery, and of a peculiar flavor. It is worthy of cultivation. *Capiamont.* The pear I received by this name, is a late fall pear, of moderate size, of a russet color, tapering to the stock, moderately acid, of pretty good flavor; but it answers not all the description of the true kind, which ripens in September, and is said to be a "large and a most delicious and beautiful fruit." A scion of the true kind was recently obtained from Mr. J. A. Lazelle of Columbus, Ohio, who says of it, "I have had the *true* Capiamont fruit this season—*first rate.* The Capiamont that was in the country previous to the receipt of scions direct from Dr. Van Mons, by Messrs. Kenrick and Manning, is said to have been erroneous." *Heathcot.* The scions of this were obtained from Mr. Kenrick, who describes it as "a native pear, a capital variety, which deserves to be ranked with the Seckel and Bartlett." There must have been some error about it, as Mr. Kenrick says it ripens "in September;" whereas, the fruit from the scions he sent, did not ripen till January. It could not have been the true kind—probably a mistake. It was however, a good winter fruit, of moderate size, green, juicy, and of a pleasant flavor. *Winter Nelis* is a small russet-colored fruit, buttery, but of very little flavor; hardly worth cultivating when there are so many others that are better. *Prince's Virgalieu* is another I would reject from my list of good pears. It is a winter pear, of *fair* size and *appearance*; green, coarse, and of little flavor. It may be good for baking, but is hardly eatable as a table fruit. I have cut the grafts off to give place to kinds *more worthy*. Of the above kinds, the Madeline, the Bartlett, the Henry Fourth, the Beurre Diel, and Passe Colmar, particularly, I would strongly recommend for cultivation to the lovers of this fruit, in addition to other kinds of known and proved excellence, as the Virgalieu, Seckel, &c. I would mention as highly worthy of cultivation also, the Flemish Beauty, Foster, Dix and Dearborn Seedling. Of the first two, Mr. J. A. Lazelle says, "The Flemish Beauty, I had fruit this season. It is large and delicious; ripened in September. It needs to be taken off a little before it is ripe, and ripened in the house. The Foster is a delicious fruit, to my taste superior to the far famed Seckel." The Foster, Dix, and Dearborn's Seedling, are American fruits, of great excellence. Others might be added to this list, but my paper admonishes me I must close this communication. B.

Urbana, Feb, 1841.

Sowing Locust Seed.

A correspondent in Yates Co. complains that he has found great difficulty in causing locust seed to vegetate, and inquires what preparation is necessary to ensure success.

The difficulty is a very common one, but the remedy is well known to most readers of agricultural papers. If the seed is perfect, all that is necessary is to *scald and soak it thoroughly* before sowing. By this we do not mean *soaking in hot water merely*; but pour on two or three quarts of *boiling water*, and let it soak twenty-four hours, when the whole or a part of the seeds will be swollen to three or four times their former size. If only a part are swollen, they should be separated, and the remainder scalded again. When thus prepared and swollen, they will vegetate almost as freely as corn; but without this process, disappointment will almost invariable be the result.

☞ It is still a good time to gather locust seed from the trees; and if any of our young readers will collect a quantity and take it to the Rochester Seed Store, they will obtain a good price for it.

Raising Fruit Trees from Cuttings.

We have received several communications making inquiries respecting the maner of raising fruit trees from cuttings; and we answer them all in one short sentence. ☞ *We do not believe it can be done successfully.* This popular error was pretty fully exploded in our vol. 1, p. 210, and therefore we deem it unnecessary to occupy more space with it at present.

New subscribers are reminded that they can obtain vol. 1. at the subscription price.

"A Subscriber" is also referred to vol. 1, for information respecting the worm in fruit trees.

Raising Chestnut Trees for Timber.

Messrs. Editors—I have 5 acres of new land—soil clayey, but good, surface rolling, beech timber predominating, which I intend to clear and plant with chestnuts. I propose to prepare the ground for corn, and plant chestnuts in each alternate hill of every second row, with the corn. I would repeat the planting of corn for two or three years, and dress the young trees with the corn till they had attained sufficient size; then sow the land with grass-seed, and let the trees grow for fence timber.

Now, if you or your correspondents, will communicate through the medium of "our own paper" some better plan, or throw some light on this subject, I will esteem it a favor, and will promise to inform you of the results of my experiment.

W. DARGITY.

Iberia, Ohio, Feb., 1841.

Remarks—The plan proposed would probably succeed very well, if the soil is suitable for the chestnut; but of this we have some doubts. This tree delights in a deep sandy or gravelly soil, and is seldom found on clayey soil, or where beech timber predominates. It is worse than useless to attempt to raise forest trees on soil that is uncongenial to their growth; and, if we are not mistaken, Mr. D. had better abandon his project, or select some other kind of tree. The subject is an important one however, and we will endeavor to give more particular information respecting it next month.—Eds.

Ornamental Plants.

It is our intention in this article to depart from our usual course, and speak only of plants *which we have not seen*, on the authority of others.

In Buist's Flower Garden Directory, printed in 1839, *Clematis cærulea* is noticed as an "entirely new climber," introduced from Japan to Europe by Dr. Van Siebold. It is arranged among hardy plants;

and Professor Lindley is quoted for the following opinion :—"It is a charming addition to the climbers cultivated in England. It has a most graceful mode of growth; and the large violet flowers with deep purple stamens, are more ornamental than those of any species of *Clematis* in this country."

Clematis sieboldii is another species from the same country and by the same florist. "Large blue and white, superb—petals suffused with violet spots—anthers of a violet color. An attractive inhabitant of the flower garden, from its graceful habit, and the size and beauty of its blossoms."

In Buist's Catalogue for 1840, he mentions *Deutzia scabra* as "one of the finest of white flowering shrubs"—said to be hardy.

Its being hardy at Philadelphia however, is no proof that it would be hardy in the Genesee country. A balance against us of three degrees of latitude, is not all that is to be taken into account. Our elevation above the level of the sea is another item; and our soil in many instances, is a third one of no small importance. Many shrubs, like the Laurels on the mountains * to the South, which could abide severer winters than ours, are sickened by the *lime* diffused through our soil, and gradually perish. Possibly the shrubs above-mentioned may be of this number, and refuse to embellish our gardens, a point however, which experiment alone can determine.

Herbaceous plants which are hardy at Philadelphia, may be safely introduced here, if they have only to contend with a difference of temperature. Our heavy soil is not so deeply penetrated by the frost, and under a more durable covering of snow, and such thick curtains as the condensed exhalations of our lakes, they will generally lie snugly and safely in their winter abode.

We notice the following perennials in Buist's Catalogue, and copy them for the purpose of making further inquiry :—

Aconitum grandiflorum—large blue.
——— versicolor—blue and white.
Campanula striata—striped flowered.
Delphinium maximum—superb blue.
——— Barlowii—dark purple.
——— bicolor—white and purple.
Dianthus splendidissima—superb double crimson.
Dracocephalum argunense—Fischer's fine blue.
Lobelia propinqua—large crimson.
——— ignea—brightest scarlet.
Lychnis bungeana—large star flowering crimson.
Onosma tauricum—golden flower.
Pæonia edulis (albiflora) v. odoratissima—sweet scented.
Pentstemon cobæa—large blush.
——— coccinea—scarlet.
Phlox corymbosa v. alba—white, superb.
—— speciosa—very showy.
—— alcordia—perpetual blooming crimson.
—— lætа—very splendid. †

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Gold Vine Peas--their History and Character.

Messrs. Editors—Having in your January number given an account of my success in raising the Gold Vine Peas, I have in consequence been addressed by several individuals in relation to their origin, the period of their ripening, and their other peculiar characteristics; and considering your paper the best medium of communicating this information to those desiring it, you will confer a favor on some of your readers, by giving a place in your columns to this communication.

The Gold Vine Peas were obtained from Canada two years ago by Mr Bateham, of the Rochester Seed Store. The following is his account of their origin:

"A farmer, in Canada, observing in his field of peas a few vines peculiarly and unusually bright, while the rest were more or less affected by mildew, took the precaution carefully to preserve the peas from these vines, and planted them year after year; fully testing and proving their perfect freedom from mildew, which so frequently destroys whole fields of common peas."

For two years I have tried these peas and find them well deserving the character and high commendation bestowed upon them. A gentleman from Rochester informed me that last season he lost a field of peas of several acres, almost entirely, by mildew; and purchased twelve bushels of my Gold Vine Peas for seeding the coming summer. Several other instances have come to my notice of similar failures. But the Gold Vines, being perfectly free from this blight, secures the farmer from all hazard and loss from that cause.

In ripening, the Gold Vine Peas are from six to fourteen days earlier than the common Marrowfats or field Peas.

The vines of these peas are at least one-third shorter than those of the Marrowfats; hence a larger quantity of seed may be sown to advantage on the acre—at least half a bushel more.

So far as my experience has enabled me to determine, and I have given them a fair trial, the Gold Vines are greater yielders, by one-quarter, than the common varieties.

Respectfully yours,
Pittsford, Feb., 1841. E. WILBUR.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Tariff for Revenue--Low Prices of Agricultural Productions more favorable to the nation's wealth than high prices.

Messrs. Editors—The advocates of countervailing duties and protective tariffs in Congress, animated by the true spirit of moderation, have no disposition to meddle with the compromise act, as necessary to such a consummation.

The Secretary of the Treasury in his recommendation of a tariff for revenue of 20 per cent. on silks, wines, and such other articles as are now imported free of duty, while it answers the purpose of revenue, and saves the government from the disgraceful treasury note system, will also give protection to our own productions.

There is little doubt that the next Congress will increase the tariff on such articles, so far at least as it can be done without infringing the compromise act, as the expenses of the Federal Government, aside from borrowing, cannot be defrayed without it.

At this time, in the midst of low prices, our agricultural interests have no cause of alarm. These low prices have alone induced an unprecedented export trade the past year; a great diminution of both foreign and domestic indebtedness; a balance of trade in favor of the country to the amount of $27,000,000; less speculation and extravagance, and greater industry and economy among the agricultural no less than among all other classes.

From the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Woodbury, we learn that all our exports the past year amounted to $131,591,950, exceeding by more than ten and a half millions of dollars the exports of 1839, notwithstanding the extreme reduced prices of some of our great staples, while the imports of the past year were more than one half less than in 1839. For several years back our imports have exceeded our exports nearly twenty millions of dollars. In 1836 the excess of imports over exports amounted to $61,346,694; but now, in 1840, in spite of the unusual low prices for all our great staples, cotton, flour, &c., our exports exceed our imports nearly twenty-seven millions of dollars. A balance of trade in our favor more than three fold greater than ever accrued before in a single year since the Constitution was adopted.

It is an axiom among business men that when agricultural productions are high, not only the farmer, but the whole body politic, increases its indebtedness, and *vica versa*. The high price of our staples in New York brings exchange in our favor, our banks discount liberally to speculators and millers, money soon circulates, prices are inflated, and speculation, folly, and extravagance are on foot. When prices fall, the banks curtail their issues, and money *is not*. The farmer finds, to his utter astonishment, that his last year's debt, which might then have been paid by half a crop, cannot now be liquidated by two crops. A healthy retrenchment and reform now commences, and better habits of industry and economy are acquired.

Let farmers then, instead of croaking about the low prices of their productions, reflect that those low prices alone have enabled Western New York, Ohio, and Michigan, to reduce our foreign indebtedness the past year, by an export of flour to England and France, to the amount of several millions of dollars, and that this same export continues to England even against a duty in the English port of three dollars a barrel. Let him also reflect that as low as are the staples of the north and west, they are no lower than the great southern staple, cotton; the article without which our country could never have arrived at its present state of luxurious civilization.

When, in 1837, flour was wanted for export to England at $8 per barrel, instead of selling at that price, and thus reducing our foreign debt, the New York commission houses held on for $10 a barrel. The result was, that instead of exporting flour, we imported several million bushels of wheat and rye from the north of Europe. This both increased our indebtedness and reduced the price of flour from $10 to $6 per barrel. During this monopoly and consequent inflation of the prices of bread stuff in New York, farmers bought more land, built fine houses, and rode in steel spring carriages—the whole country went into debt with rail-road speed; and, as if we could not increase our indebtedness abroad fast enough, our government took off the duty on rail-road iron. High prices of produce, and the consequent high prices of labor, paralized our manufacturing industry and prevented the exportation of manufactured articles. Every thing was imported, until, as might be expected, a general revulsion and prostration ensued. But in 1839 and '40 the low prices of the necessaries of life, caused by increased production and better notions of economy, has enabled the country to export the past year, aside from agricultural productions, three times the amount of manufactured articles ever before exported in a single year S. W.

Produce of One Acre of Ground.

Mr. J. Fry, of Concord, Erie Co., N. Y., raised 100 bushels of sound (shelled) corn, twenty-five bushels of potatoes, and two cart loads of pumpkins on one acre of ground, the past season, and sold his corn stalks for 15 bushels of oats.

The above is the postscript to a business letter received by us a few days since from Erie county. We wish our friends would more frequently annex such items of information to their letters of business.—Eds.

Domestic Industry in the Far West.

A correspondent in Iowa informs us that the women of his household went to manufacture domestic cloth, such as linsey woolsey, fulled cloth, blankets, &c.; but find much difficulty in the *warping*. We hope this art is not yet to be lost; and therefore request that some of our readers will give our western friends plain and full instructions on this subject.

*On a former occasion we referred to a remarkable circumstance: The detritus of this district, including much *lime*, has been swept over our high hills to the South into Pennsylvania; and wherever this diluvium is found, no Kalmia flourishes. We have not observed this deposit however, more than twenty miles South of our boundary.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Rust on Wheat.

MESSRS. EDITORS—If there is one subject more than another in which the farmer is deeply interested, and which needs thoroughly investigating, it is the one at the head of this article. It is not an evil consequent upon poor farming, for it attacks, indiscriminately, the grain of the best, as well as the poorer class of farmers. The ground is thoroughly prepared, the seed committed to the bosom of the earth; its progress is watched with anxiety, and it promises a plentiful harvest. The farmer's expectations are about to be realized, when he discovers the ravages of a disease, which is either to deprive him of a part of his earnings, or entirely to destroy the "golden prospect" and rob him of the whole.

The writer of this article is well aware that he has entered upon a difficult subject. Difficult, because there are difficulties constantly arising, or, in other words, discordant suggestions are continually presenting themselves to one's mind while investigating it. He does not flatter himself with the expectation of arriving at the right conclusion. His only aim is to add his *little*, and to solicit others more competent than himself, to come forward and investigate the subject. We want all the facts connected with the subject, that any one, and every one, may be in the possession of, for in this way we may arrive at the truth.

Well, what is to be done? In the first place, let us ascertain, if possible, what this evil, rust, is; and in the second place, the *cause* of its attacking and the manner of its *affecting*, the plant.

It is believed by most who have written upon the subject, that rust is a parasitical plant of the fungus kind. Some, however, contend that it is "nothing more than the thickening juices of the plant, escaping through the ruptured envelope, and dried and blackened in the sun." That the rust is a plant of the fungus kind, is a fact established perhaps beyond a doubt. There are two distinct kinds, commonly called the *yellow* and *black* rust, both of which attack wheat, though the latter is much more injurious. They are described by Professor Eaton, in his North American Botany, as follows:—"*Uredo linearis*, (yellow grain rust,) linear, very long, stained yellow, at length but obscurely colored. On the culms and leaves of barley, oats, rye, wheat, &c." and "*Puccinia graminis*, tufts dense, oblong, often confluent, forming long parallel lines in the direction of grasy fibres; color, yellowish brown, becoming black; seeds elongated with the upper shell shortest, containing dust; stripes filiform. On wheat and other grasses. Called rust or blight."

The cause of either of these fungi affecting grain in the manner it does, or rather the preparatory cause for its reception and germination on the stem and leaf of the plant, is what is yet to be learned. The following passage is found in an article on the rust or mildew of wheat, in the Edinburg Quarterly Journal of Agriculture:—

"The dust-like substances of the rust originates beneath the outer bark or epidermis of the plant, which it raises and renders thin, and at length cracks and bursts through. When examined by the microscope, it presents a congeries of egg-oblong bodies, some of which have projections almost like tad poles, or pow heads, though they are not animated."

The question then arises, supposing the dust-like substance of the rust to originate beneath the epidermis, where do the sporules or seeds of the fungi lodge, or become deposited, and what is the state of the leaf and stem most favorable for this reception? Some suppose the sporules fall upon the ground, and are absorbed by the roots of the plants and carried by the sap through the pores of the stem, where they germinate and produce the disease, called rust. Others contend that the sporules are blown by the winds and lodge upon the leaf and outer bark of the plant. The time most favorable for their propagation, is damp warm weather. The epidermis of the plant is then damp, consequently the seeds of the fungi are easily attached to it. Again it is contended, that wheat, the most likely to be affected, is that which has been kept back in the spring, from some cause, either by being raised out by the frost, or late sowing, when, particularly if the soil is rich, it grows too rapidly, and the consequence is, the juices or sap of the plant accumulates sufficiently to check or split the stem. The exudation of the juices through these openings makes suitable lodgements for the sporules, and the the damp sultry weather, hastens the germination and perfection of the fungus. Its growth is very rapid, arriving to maturity in the short space of twenty-four hours; and producing probably many millions of seeds. Hence the cause of its spreading with such rapidity.

J. B BOWEN.

(To be continued.)

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Lime and its Application.

MESSRS. EDITORS—Having read some paragraphs in both the old and New Genesee Farmer on the subject of applying lime to the soil, but having seen none which agrees with the manner in which I was, in early life, used to seeing it applied,—I will give you a brief statement, should any of your numerous readers think it worth a trial.

For wheat, we used to consider it best to have it drawn and prepared some two or three months before its application. The manner of preparing, thus:—Plough round your inclosure intended for wheat, say six or eight furrows, (it will be better drawn out in the field than left for brush and briers to grow in.) Along the centre of these furrows put your lime, and cover it with earth six or eight inches thick. If the weather is moist, two or three days will dissolve it to powder, when it should be thoroughly mixed with the soil, that is around it, by means of a hoe, and drawn up in a conical shape, when, if it is thoroughly dissolved, (which it should be before mixing,) it will receive no injury from the weather. It is not likely that there would be enough to go over the whole. Then the centre of the field might be ploughed, say two furrows each way, and heaps thrown up at suitable distances for spreading, prepared in the same way. The writer has seen swamp muck, road soil, &c., prepared in this way, and attended with very beneficial results.

For spring crops, the lime was drawn in the early part of the spring, and the heaps made at suitable distances for spreading, by throwing two or more furrows against each other and the lime allowed to dissolve in the same manner; but in no case spreading it before it was well mixed with the soil with which it was covered. This was the manner of aplying lime to the soil in the west of England twenty years since.

Yours respectfully,

A SUBSCRIBER.

Erie County, Jany. 1841.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Sprouting Garden Seeds--Raising Onions.

MESSRS. EDITORS—The approaching season will soon resume the interest in the field and garden; and it may not be unprofitable at this time to consider what will be the best course to pursue. The following statements are advanced as proof of the very great advantage derived from the simple process of sprouting garden seeds before planting. The positive knowledge of its benefits, is derived from six years' practice. There is no difficulty to be apprehended if the same judgment be exercised that is required in the common operations of the garden.

First, soak the seeds in water from six to twenty-four hours—some seeds being slower to admit moisture than others, is the difference in the time required. After soaking, drain off the water, and mix the seeds with a sufficient quantity of earth to absorb the moisture remaining on the seeds; stir them often that they may vegetate freely, and keep them in a moderate degree of warmth and moisture until they are sprouted, when they are ready to be put into the ground. If the weather should be unfavorable, put the seeds in a cool place, which will check their growth.

The advantages of this practice cannot be better shown, than by relating the management and improvement of the onion crop in our own garden. The culture of the crop in 1840 was as follows:—Just before the approach of the preceding winter, there was a light dropping of fine manure put on a piece of land designed for onions, containing 2½ acres, and the same ploughed. It remained until a thaw in the winter; it was then ploughed again—the frost was not all out of the ground—it was consequently left very rough; more of the soil was exposed to the frost, which was beneficial. It was left in that situation until the time of sowing. In April, as soon as the soil was sufficiently dry, the ploughing was commenced, and the second day, at night, the sowing was finished, with seed prepared as before stated. *In one week the onions were up*, rows were soon visible nearly twenty rods and no weeds yet appeared, The operation of stirring the soil with rakes and hoes was then commenced, and the weeds were not suffered to grow during the summer. (It is a mistaken notion that it is not time to hoe a garden until it is green with weeds.) The first of September the onions were harvested, and the product was over *two thousand bushels* of fine onions from two and a half acres.

The management of the crop six years before, (in 1834,) was as follows:—Early in the spring there was a light dressing of fine manure put on the piece of land intended for onions, containing 2½ acres (the same piece before mentioned.) The necessary travel across the ground for the purpose of manuring, and the natural state of the soil, as it had remained from the time the crop was taken off the preceding fall, produced a great quantity of lumps after ploughing, and although the work with teams, bushing and harrowing, was four times as great as in 1840, it was not in good condition; *the seed was sown dry;* a season of dry weather followed, consequently the onions did not come up until the weeds were started, which made it a great task to till the crop. By referring to the memorandum kept for that year, (as the practice has invariably been to register daily proceedings or occurrences connected with the garden,) the onions were sown the 15th of April, and the weeding commenced the 21st of May, which was as soon as the onions were fairly up, making 26 days more for the weeds to grow than in 1840. The onions did not all botom, on account of the late start in the spring, which is generally the cause for what it is termed *skullions*, (a difficulty which more or less prevails; but by the improved practice it is not in the least to be feared.) The produce was *eleven hundred and forty bushels* from 2½ acres, and the quantity of labor very nearly double the amount required in 1840.

The practice of 1834, had been followed successively on the same piece of land for twenty-five years. The former proprietor had been engaged the most of his life in raising onions, and it was supposed had gained the point of perfection in that business, especially as, previous to his settlement in this country, he came from that well known town in the land of Yankee nativity, where originated the large stories about raising onions, that amused and astonished the children in other parts of the country fifty years ago.

W. RISLEY,

Horticultural Garden, Fredonia, N. Y. 1841.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Bots and Horse Bees.

Messrs. Editors—I wrote a few observations upon the horse Bee and Bot for the Genesee Farmer, which was published in vol 5, page 85. Some suggestions I there made, which I thought true at the time; but some further light upon the subject, has somewhat changed my views—which to acknowledge, is only to admit that we are wiser to day than we were yesterday.

Any thing that directly or indirectly concerns the worth or welfare of that noble animal, the *Horse*, should not be disregarded. The bot or horse bee, of themselves, we care not a pin about; but as far as they concern the horse, we have the best of reasons to be deeply concerned.

About the 4th of August I found several bots in one of my stables, where I kept two of my horses. I selected three of them and put them into the box of my carriage for safe keeping, until I should go to my house. I had supposed a bot unable to crawl, having never seen them do it, and never seeing any legs or apparatus for progression: I therefore concluded they were unable to advance or retreat of their own volition; but I soon saw they had the power of crawling with tolerable speed in a manner that I had not suspected. The body of the bot seems encased in several circles, and incapable of but a little motion more than a slight elongation and contraction; but their heads and necks are very ductile, and capable of much motion, being about five-eighths of an inch long when contracted, and seven-eighths of an inch when elongated. Their motion, like the maggot tribe in general, seemed to be by a distending of the head and neck, then seizing hold with the mouth, and instantly contracting the neck so as to draw the body forward. Any little unevenness would jostle and upset them. They crawled about my carriage box for some hours, searching every depression, or knot, or nail hole, eagerly, as if intent to escape from the air, or light, or both. I observed, when they were searching a crack, knot, or nail hole, they would root up and throw out dirt like little pigs. When I went to my house I took them along, and put them into a wide mouthed viol, tied a cloth over the mouth, and laid them by in a drawer to see what would be their end. After occasionally crawling about a little for ten or twelve hours, they contracted, changed from an opaque or horn color, to a reddish chestnut color, and then lay dry and immovable until the 8th of September, being 35 days. When they came forth, three Horse Bees, two females, (full of eggs or nits,) the other having none: I think it was a male. Whether the eggs are fecundated, or impregnated, I have made no experiment yet to ascertain. Their close confinement might have made them unhealthy, and deprived them of the inclination to fecundity. They seemed inclosed in nine circles, and armed with short, stiff hair, between the segments of the circles.

In consequence of all three of the bots passing into their chrysalis state in one day, and all coming forth horse bees (Æstrus equs.) in another day, I am led to infer that the times of their changes are quite regular, especially the time they remain in the chrysalis state; also the time they remain a horse bee or bot fly; but the time they generally remain a bot maggot, or larvæ, in the stomach of the horse, I am now unable to say; but we may safely conclude if they are cast out any season but a warm season, they must perish. As the temperature of the stomach of the horse is about the same, summer or winter, I think it most probable they come to maturity at some certain time from the period they reach the stomach of the horse, probably ten or eleven months.

Whether a bot is armed with teeth or other apparatus sufficient to perforate the coats of the stomach of a horse, I cannot now decide; but that they possess ample means to trouble and greatly annoy the horse, I have no doubt. It is a well known fact that all the insect tribe while they are in the maggot or larva state, are very active and voracious.

Whenever the bot is in any way disturbed, it contracts itself into its coat of mail, *capapie*, which renders it invulnerable to the most of substances that a horse can endure, which probably is the reason of the difficulty generally of ridding the horse of them. I have much faith in the use of spirits of turpentine, in doses of from a gill to half a pint, in molasses or sugar, every one or two hours, until it gives relief, whether it be bots or colic, as we cannot often know which is the trouble, knowing that all the insect and vermin tribe are so much annoyed or destroyed by the contact with spirits of turpentine; beside, the horse or human subject may safely use large doses of it, if they use sugar freely with and after it, to abate its acrimony. Another remedy I think is entitled to a trial at least, viz: one quart of new milk, saturated with honey, molasses, or sugar, in the order named, (fasting if possible,) two hours after drench with a pint of brine, as strong as boiling water can make it; two hours after give half a pint of flax seed oil.

It is asserted that the bot will fill itself so full of the first mixture, that the action of the other destroys it.

Baron Cuvier says, the different classes of the fly (œstri) in their larvæ state, inhabit the ox, horse, ass, rein deer, stag, antelope, camel, sheep, and hare.

SPECTATOR.

Brighton, N. Y. Jany. 1841.

Use of Swamp Muck.

Messrs. Editors—A Young Farmer asks if marshy black earth can be made a good dressing for upland. I think it can. First, cart it from the bed on the land you wish to manure, or any other place convenient, in heaps, or, which is better, in rows, like winrows of hay, and about the same size, and after it has lain a month or two, or six, all the better, take stone lime, lay it along on the top of the row, say one bushel of lime to 15 or 20 of black earth; put on water sufficiently to slack it, and cover it with the earth slightly; as soon as it is perfectly slacked, and while hot, begin at one end of the pile and mix well together, and apply it to the land when wanted, and it will be found an excellent manure. Another good way is, when you have cleaned out the barn yard in the spring, cart in the black earth to the depth of 10 or 12 inches; throw on occasionally straw, leaves, green weeds, &c.; let the cattle run on it through the season; it will get saturated with urine, (the strongest of manure,) and in the spring following when carted out, will be fine manure. Shell, or calcareous marl, is also an excellent mixture, (and possibly a Young Farmer may find some by digging two or three feet deep in his black, swampy earth.) Farmers often cart swampy earth on the land and immediately plough it in, but I think with little profit. It is too sour—it wants to be laid up to the air, and mixed with lime, marl, or something to sweeten it.

As to the best and cheapest kind of fence across the marsh, I cannot say from experience; but think that a live fence of willow, swamp elm, or American thorn, would be the best. Throw up the bank, a foot or two high, or sufficient to be tolerably dry, and plant cuttings of the basket willow, 10 or 12 inches apart; and in two or three years it can be cut yearly for making baskets, &c.; but probably the native thorn would make the best and most durable fence, and it would require more labor and expense. The ground must be thrown up dry, and well prepared with lime, manure, &c.; the plants put in 6 or 8 inches apart; kept clean and clipt, and in a few years it will make a beautiful and durable fence.

A Friend To Improvements.

Newburgh, N. Y., Feby, 1841.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

RECEIPTS.

TO KILL LICE ON CATTLE.

Feed them a quantity of sulphur in small doses at a time, mixed with cut roots, hay, salt, or any thing else. [This we believe very efficacious, the sulphur passing to the surface and repelling the lice.—Eds.]

TO MAKE CALVES EAT ROOTS.

Pound the roots fine, mix with them cut hay, bran, or any thing they will eat, and in two or three days they become fond of the roots.

The following were handed me by a lady of no small standing, so you may depend upon their accuracy.

TO MAKE WISCONSIN MINCE PIES.

Take the usual quantity of meat, and substitute *beets* for apples, but in only one-third the quantity of the latter,—boil the beets, pickle them in vinegar 12 hours, chop them very fine, and add the vinegar they were pickled in. Add one-eighth of grated bread, and spice to suit you.

TO MAKE INDIAN LOAF BREAD.

Stir Indian meal in skim milk to the consistency of pan-cake batter, about two quarts. Add 2 teaspoonfuls of molasses, 1 of saleratus, 2 of shortening, and 2 teacups of wheat flour. Stir in the evening, bake in the morning. and eat while hot.

TO MAKE WISCONSIN SPONGE CAKE.

Take 2 eggs, (or omit them if wished,) 1 teacup of buttermilk, 1 tea-spoon of saleratus 2 table-spoons of cream, and salt to suit. Stir to the consistency of pan-cake batter. Bake 20 minutes on tin pans, and eat while hot with butter. F. H. SIPERLY.

Wisconsin.

Summer all the Year.

Messrs. Editors—The "*Hot Air Furnace,*" which was designed by W. R. Smith, of Macedon, and described by you in the October number of your valuable paper, has been tested by me for the last four months, and I am now prepared to give my testimony concerning it. It will take about twelve cords of wood to warm three or four rooms in my house, day and night, for one year, or about two cords for one month, during winter. This is about the same quantity that I have been accustomed to use in one fireplace, to burn me on one side and freeze me on the other, through the day only, while it saves much expense in preparing fuel for the fire, the furnace receiving wood forty inches in length and sixteen inches in diameter. We use no more bedding in winter than in summer. We keep milk and other things in the buttery at such a temperature as we please. In short we can keep any room in the house at any desired temperature, and all this from one fire in the cellar, while the rooms are free from smoke, soot, and ashes. I find in the furnace, all the benefits described by you, and can cheerfully recommend it to the public. I would advise all who design building new houses, whether private dwellings, meeting houses, or public schools, to examine the subject. Mr. Williams, of Palmyra, who furnishes the castings, designs to make some improvements in his patterns, by which the price will be somewhat reduced. Summer is the time to build, and the winter to enjoy it.

Yours truly,

V. YEOMANS.

Walworth, Wayne Co., N. Y., Feby. 1841.

Making Hot Beds--Gardening for March.

This is called the first month of Spring, but in this climate the weather savors too much of winter to allow of much being done in the Garden, except making preparations for next month, or forwarding such articles as are desired early, by means of hot-beds. Almost every farmer or mechanic, who cultivates a garden, would find a small hot-bed of sufficient advantage to amply compensate for the care and labor it requires. There are few greater luxuries than the early Radishes, Lettuce, Cucumbers, &c. which a good hot-bed affords, to say nothing of the advantage of starting Cabbage, Cauliflower, Broccoli, Celery, Tomato, Pepper and other plants a month or two earlier by this means than could otherwise be done.

Hot-beds can be made any time during this or next month. We gave particular directions last year (Vol. 1. Nos. 2 and 3,) for preparing manure, constructing the frames, sashes, &c., and therefore deem it unnecessary to do so again in detail, but as it is particularly desired we will repeat the directions for constructing hot-beds.

"Select a site for the bed, on dry ground, where it will be fully exposed to the sun, but sheltered from the north and west winds. Mark out the size of the bed, allowing six or eight inches on all sides larger than the size of the frame. Then drive down a good strong stake at each corner, as high as you intend to build the bed Then take the manure (which should be fresh stable manure in a good state of fermentation) and commence building the bed by mixing the manure thoroughly, and putting on successive layers, beating it down with the fork. Observe to place it smoothly and firmly around the outside, so that it will not settle unevenly from the weight of the frame. The height of manure requisite, will depend on the time at which the bed is formed, and the purpose for which it is intended. If made early in March, and intended for growing cucumbers, &c., a good deal of heat will be required for two or three months, and at least four feet high of manure will be necessary. But a bed made early in April, for the purpose of forwarding early plants to be transplanted into the garden, will not require more than half that quantity.

"When the bed is made, put on the frame, and then put in about six inches of good fine earth; put on the sash and let it remain two or three days for the heat to rise, when it will be ready for sowing.

"Make the earth smooth and fine before sowing; if cucumbers or melons are to be planted, raise slight hills for them under the middle of each sash. The articles usually sown in hot-beds are cucumber, radish, lettuce and cress, for early use; and cauliflower, broccoli, cabbage, egg plant, tomato, pepper, celery, &c., to transplant. The earliest varieties of each are of course the best for this purpose."

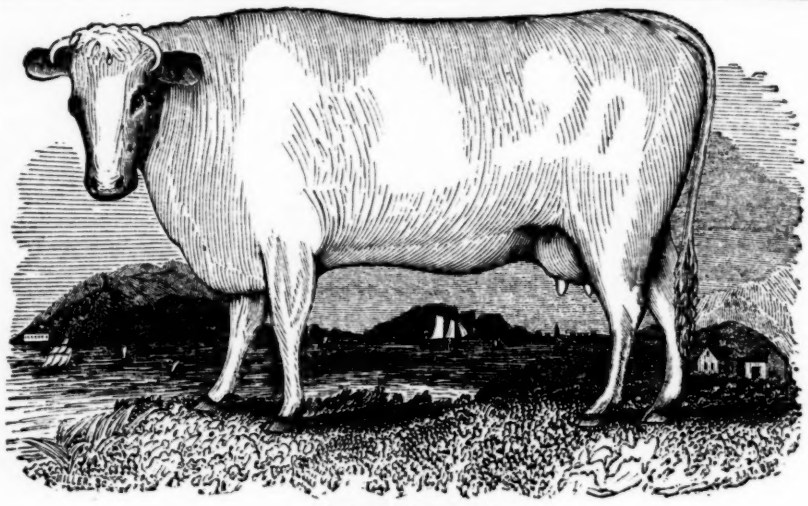
Mangel Wurtzel.

Our respected neighbor, Dr. D. A. Robinson, raised the past season, from one half an acre of land, a little less than *five hundred bushels* of mangel wurtzel.—This was done at a cost, estimating labor at a dollar a day, of about *two and a half cents per bushel.* Land, previously in good condition, was manured broadcast at the rate of about forty loads to the acre, ridges were subsequently formed, the seed planted in drills upon these half an inch deep and rolled, and the crop afterwards thined and kept clean.

It may be proper to state, that the seed, obtained at the Rochester Seed Store, was sown at the rate of two pounds only to the acre, and afforded an abundance of plants, which required thinning to less than one third. We believe nearly all the failures of seed the past year were from planting too deep. *

Correction.

We thank the Farmer's Gazette for correcting an error we committed, in stating that the report of the farms of J. B. Davis and W. K. Townsend were made to the *Hartford* County Agricultural Society. As our Connecticut readers very well know, Derby and East Haven are in New Haven county, and by a *lapsis pennæ*, and not from ignorance, we gave Hartford, and not New Haven the credit. *



JESSAMINE.

THE PROPERTY OF WM. R. SMITH, MACEDON.

Jessamine is from T. Weddle's imported stock. Dam, Lady Bower; bred by the celebrated Major Bower, of Welham, Yorkshire; which, with her calf, 10 months old, was sold by T. Weddle to J. C. Hathaway for $1,000:—is by Rover, (alias Charles,) bred by the Earl of Carlisle, and whose pedigree has been given in this paper, (page 8.) A calf, 10 months old, by the same bull and cow, sold to Kentucky for $600.

The color of Jessamine is pure white. Great care has been taken to have the portrait correct, exhibiting the deformities as well as beauties; for unless portraits of animals are rigidly correct, they are worse than useless, tending only to mislead. *

Scraps,

CONDENSED FROM EXCHANGE PAPERS, &c.

MARL.—In some parts of New Jersey, according to Henry Colman, the recent use of marl on land has been of great efficacy. "It has more than doubled the value of the lands in the neighborhood of the pits where it is found. The application of one hundred bushels to land, which, under common cultivation, would not produce more than 20 bushels of corn to the acre, causes it to yield 60 bushels, and wheat and clover in proportional abundance."

PEAT.—The island of Nantucket contains 985 acres of peat swamp, from one to fourteen feet in depth; and in the state of Massachusetts there are at least 80,000 acres, of an average depth of at least six feet.

GOOD FARMING.—A farmer near Philadelphia, on a farm of 130 acres, has an average yearly crop of 1,500 bushels of wheat, 450 bushels of rye, and 500 bushels of corn annually. He pursues a regular system of rotation.

GRASSES—*loss of weight in drying*.—The following experiments were made in 1822 and '23:

		1822.	1823.
100 lbs. of green White clover	gave	17½	27
" " " Red clover	"	27½	25
" " Herd's grass	"	40	39
" " Fresh meadow	"	38	44
" " Salt grass	"	39	40
" " Corn stalks	"	25	25
" " Red top	"		46
" " Couch grass	"		48
" " Fowl meadow (*Poa nemoralis?*)			53

The white clover of 1822 grew in shade, that of '23 in the sun. The salt grass of '22 a second growth.—*J. Wells, in Agric. Jour. Mass.*

CATTLE—*new breed*.—Col. Jacques, of Charleston, Mass., has for several years been breeding from an imported short horn bull, and a native cow, his stock at present amounting to about sixty. The first heifer from this cross gave, the first year of milking, sixteen quarts a day. The milk from his cows is very rich, the cream very thick, and yields very little buttermilk. He says, 100 lbs. of cream will make 95 lbs. of butter. One of his cows makes one pound of butter for every four quarts of milk. He does not feed high—says *food* will never make a fine breed, but that *blood* is every thing. His *cows in milk* have hay or grass, with one to two pecks of roots a day.

COTTON CROP.—The Governor of Alabama, says, "the cotton crop has fallen so far short of reasonable calculation, that without a forbearance on the part of creditors, not to be expected, the pecuniary distress of the people, the next year, will be *unprecedented and ruinous.*"

BALKY HORSES, it is asserted, can be easily made to do their duty, by tying a cord round the ear close to the head, which will operate like a charm, where whipping, coaxing, and every thing else, have proved fruitless,

KEEPING STORE HOGS.—E. C. Frost, in the Cultivator, states, that he kept 24 shoats last winter, at an expense of 20 cents a day, (less than a cent per head,) by feeding them 10 lbs. of hay, half a bushel of potatoes, and 4 quarts of corn meal, daily, and never had hogs winter better. The hay, cut fine, was boiled with plenty of water, the potatoes were boiled in another kettle, pounded fine, mixed with the hay and meal, and let stand a day till fermented.

MANUFACTURES IN MASSACHUSETTS.—These *exceed* the largest crop of cotton ever raised in all the cotton growing states,—that of last year, which at 8 cents a pound, amounted to $67,000,000, which is less than the returns in Massachusetts for 1837. The manufactures and *fisheries* of that state were $92,000,000.

FUEL.—It is estimated that upwards of $50,000,000 are consumed every year in the United States for fuel.

DEPTH OF LAKES.—A correspondent of the Geneva Courier, gives the result of an experiment made by Judge Norton and others, to ascertain the depth of Seneca lake, near Big Stream Point, which at one third of the distance across from the west shore was 461 feet, and at one half the distance, 553 feet. The depth of Cayuga lake at Aurora, according to the measurement of Dr. John Gridley, formerly of that village, in 1826, was found to be as follows:—1st sounding 51 feet; 2d, 72; 3d, 108; 4th, 120; 5th, 176; 6th, 192; 7th, 238; 8th, 282; 9th, 46. The

8th sounding was three quarters the distance across from the east shore, and the others at equal distances. This lake is doubtless much deeper some miles south, as it never freezes there, while it does sometimes at Aurora.

Salt for Cattle.—The celebrated Curwen, says, "Before I commenced giving my cattle salt, my farrier's bill averaged 58 pounds per annum, (more than $250,) and since I have used salt, I have never paid in any one year over five shillings." Did this difference result from the salt alone, or was not the care in giving salt regularly accompanied with a corresponding care in other particulars, also tending to prevent disease? Try the experiment, farmers.

Improvement in Cattle.—A house in Boston, that has annually slaughtered 5 or 6000 head of cattle, have found, in the last twelve years, an increase in the average weight, from about 800 to 900 lbs. In the London market, cattle slaughtered have increased at least one third in the last 50 years, and mutton not less.

Ripening wall fruit.—An English gentleman blackened with paint a part of the garden wall on which his grapes were trained, which caused an increase of three fold in the weight of the fruit on the blackened part, the bunches being much finer, larger, and better ripened. The absorbing and radiating power of black surfaces is well known.

Hessian fly.—Margaretta H. Morris, of Germantown, Pa. has made some recent observations on this insect, which if correct render former opinions relative to its habits erroneous; and her positions, if established, will be of great importance. According to her observations, the parent insect lays its egg in the *seed* of the wheat; the egg remains unaltered till the wheat sprouts; the young worm remains below the surface of the earth during winter; in the spring it ascends through the stalk, passes to the sheath, changes to the pupa, or "*flax-seed*" state, and finally, when the wheat is ripe, to the perfect insect or fly, which lives only ten days, during which time it deposits its eggs. To prevent its ravages, therefore, seed wheat must be procured from regions where the insect is unknown, and the farmer who sows seed from a district ravaged by it, actually commits the absurdity of planting Hessian flies for the next year's crop. We believe her theory not entirely original, and it needs more observations to establish its correctness.

Horticultural Meeting.

A meeting of the friends of Horticulture, in Monroe and the adjoining counties, will be held in the Court House in Rochester, on Monday the 15th of March next, at 11 o'clock, A. M.; for the purpose of forming a society, and devising such other means as may be deemed expedient to give a general impulse to Horticultural pursuits.

As the objects of the meeting are of general importance, it is to be hoped that this call will meet with a hearty response from every friend of the cause throughout the country. It is the duty of every one to attend who cultivates or takes an interest in the productions of the garden, or who wishes to improve or beautify the rural aspect of our country.

Other countries, and other portions of our own country, have derived great advantages from Horticultural Societies, and their influence begins to be generally appreciated: for we find that on all sides of us, north and south, east and west, such associations are being organized. Why not here? It is evident to many minds, that in no portion of the Union are horticultural pursuits generally more neglected, or in a more backward state than in Western New York, considering the advanced state of society, the unrivalled natural advantages of soil, climate, &c., and the enterprising character of the people. It is certainly high time that a combined and determined effort was made to promote the interests of this important branch of rural economy. Agriculture has received a powerful impetus all over the country through the influence of societies. They have disseminated a spirit of improvement throughout the farming community

The same successful results will no doubt attend the efforts we are about to make to improve our system of gardening, if a proper spirit is evinced now; as we hope there will be, and Western New York in a few years will be able to vie with any portion of the Union, in respect to her horticultural productions.

H. B. Williams,	H. N. Langworthy,
W. Van Zandt,	J. Williams,
E M. Parsons,	C. L. Clarke,
A. Erickson,	M. B. Bateham,
J. Hawks,	C. F. Crosman,
J. H. Thompson,	H. O'Reilly,
T. H. Hyatt,	Lewis Selye,
E. F. Smith,	R. Gorsline,
J. B. Elwood,	S. Hamilton,
P. G. Tobey,	Wm. Pitkin,
J. Child,	J. M. Whitney,
Wm. M'Knight,	G. H. Chapin,
J. . Reilly,	S. O. Smith,
Joseph Field,	Silas Cornell,
Ebenezer Watts,	James H. Watts,
Asa Rowe,	G. Ellwanger,
A. Reynolds,	P. Barry,

Monroe County Agricultural Society.

The annual meeting of the "Genesee Agricultural Society," was held pursuant to notice at the Arcade House, Rochester, on Tuesday the 2d February. After considerable discussion, it was resolved to change the name and constitution of the Society—that it be called the "*Monroe County Agricultural Society,*" for the advancement of agriculture, horticulture, and the domestic arts in Monroe county.

It was then Resolved, That a meeting of the Society be held on the 5th day of May next, to appoint committees and make arrangements for the coming season.

The following persons were elected officers of the Society for the ensuing year:—

President—Lyman B. Langworthy, Esq. Greece.
1st Vice President—William Garbutt, Wheatland.
2d " " Henry E. Rochester, Gates.
3d " " Wm. C. Cornell, Henrietta.
Recording Secretary—H. M. Ward, Rochester.
Corresponding do. M. B. Bateham, do.
Treasurer—Charles F. Crosman, do.

MANAGERS.

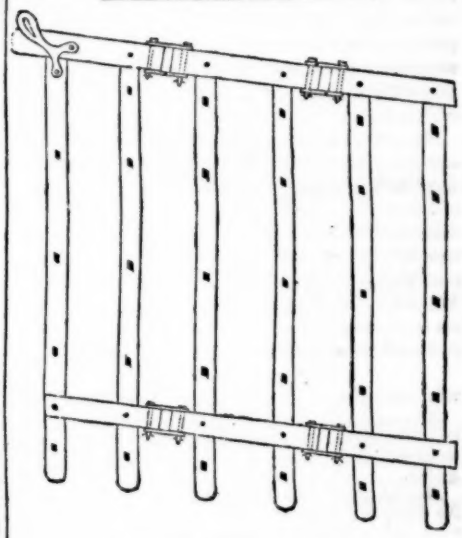
Rawson Harmon, Jr., Wheatland,
Oliver Culver, Brighton,
Thomas Weddle, Greece,
Isaac Moore, Brighton,
H. E. Barnard, Mendon,
Wm. Pixley, Chili,
Enoch Strong, Perinton,
John B. Smith, Ogden,
John H. Robinson, Henrietta,
George C. Latta, Greece,
J. P. Stull, Rush,
Geo. Sheffer, Wheatland,
Dr. Abel Baldwin, Clarkson.

H. M. WARD, Sec'y.

Canada.

The two Canadas are now united in one Province, and Kingston is selected as the location for the seat of government. Lord Sydenham is Governor in Chief of the whole Province, and Sir George Arthur Lieutenant Governor of the upper portion. This adjustment of the political affairs of the country appears to give general satisfaction, and it may confidently be expected that Canada will now make more rapid advancement in agricultural improvement. We are gratified to perceive increasing spirit in some of the Agricultural Societies—and especially to find an increasing demand for the New Genesee Farmer.—Several of the Societies have ordered large numbers for the use of the members; and their letters speak in the most flattering terms of the good our humble efforts have accomplished during the past year.

We should be pleased to receive more frequent communications from the numerous able writers in Canada. Will they not favor us? The Secretaries, or other officers of the Societies, could send us much information that would be interesting, and some of them have promised to bear it in mind.



Double Hinge Harrow.

Editors New Genesee Farmer:—

Gentlemen—I send you a draft of a double-hinge harrow, of my own invention, which has been highly approved by many who have used it. It differs materially from any in use, it is believed, in two material points, viz: in the motion being better, and in clearing itself from stones, weeds, and other stuff, tending to clog it.

It sweeps 7 feet, and from end to end is 9 feet.

The angle is 80 degrees, or two inches to the foot from a square.

The timber is 6 feet long and 3 inches square.

The teeth are 7-8ths of an inch square, and 9 inches long.

The hinges are straps of iron, 7 inches long, with holes in each end, and bolts to pass through with keys.

The hook or eye, to hitch to, should rise 7 or 8 inches, to prevent the forward end from being lifted by the draught.

The cross pieces are let in on top, and fastened with bolts and screws. THOMAS HUNT.

Fall Creek, Dec. 1840.

The Durham (U. C.) Agricultural Society.

The annual meeting of this spirited Society was held at Port Hope, Jan. 15. By the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer, it appeared there was a balance in the Treasury of one hundred and two pounds seventeen shillings and eleven pence.

The following officers were elected for the present year:—

President,
DAVID SMART, Esq., Port Hope.
Vice Presidents,
Alexander Broadfoot, Esq. of Hope,
R W. Robson, Esq. of Clarke,
John Knowlson, Esq. of Cavan,
John Smart, Esq. of Darlington.
William Sisson, Esq. *Treasurer.*
Morgan Jellett, *Secretary.*
And One Hundred Directors in different parts of the country.

H. COLMAN'S ADDRESS,

BEFORE THE AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NEW HAVEN CO., CONN.

We often feel a desire to lay before our readers more of the able addresses and other excellent articles which we find in our exchange papers; but were we to do so, we should be compelled to omit many of the favors of our esteemed correspondents; and we are aware that most of our readers generally prefer that which is written for their particular benefit. We should do them injustice, however, were we to confine our columns to original articles; for many valuable discoveries and improvements are made in different places, and published in other journals, and it always stimulates and pleases the mind to learn that other people, in various places, are actuated by the same spirit, and engaged in the same enterprise as ourselves.

No man at the present day, in the United States, occupies a higher rank, as an advocate of improvement, or a delineator of the pleasures and advantages of a rural life, than HENRY COLMAN; and no man is doing more to elevate the noble profession of Agriculture to its proper standard, than him. We are led to these remarks by reading the address as above named. We cannot afford room for the whole of it; but we are sure our readers will derive both pleasure and profit from the following portions —EDS. NEW GEN. FAR.

THE FARMER NEED NOT BE JEALOUS OF HIS NEIGHBOR.

No occasion of the gathering of the people is less liable to objection, or more congenial to benevolent and pious sentiments, than that which has brought us together.

Here, a spirit of good will reigns over the whole. No discordant or hostile feeling can find place. No strife and no emulation can find place, but an emulation for excellence, which alike benefits all, and in improvements, which diffuse themselves over the community, and the sole aim of which is the common welfare. To well disposed minds, this is a religious occasion of the highest character. None is more suited to lift up the soul in adoring confidence and gratitude to the great Author of nature. He it is, who "causes grass to grow for cattle, and herbs for the service of man." He clothes the flowers of the field with a splendor, before which the gorgeousness of oriental luxury is dimmed. His benevolent agency operates every where in the teeming earth, the swelling bud, the golden and crimsoned fruit; in the vapor, the dew, the air, the heat, the light, in all their mysterious influences. He is the source of all felicity, health and beauty.

THE ART OF LIFE IS THE ABILITY TO OBTAIN FOOD.

Agriculture is the great art of life. In an economical view it constitutes the subsistence of man. Eating and drinking are deemed vulgar employment; yet who, even among the exquisite of the transcendant school, is not compelled to conform to the fashion.—The body is often spoken of with disdain, as though there were something degrading in its material elements. In such cases, a reflection is cast upon the divine skill and beneficence in one of their most wonderful exhibitions. But is there not an electric chain of sympathy between the body and mind? What is to become of our philosophy without bread and meat? How is genius to speed her flight, or the fires of the imagination to be kept bright, unless this same body, the dwelling place of the etherial guest, be maintained in its health, elasticity, and vigor. It is calculated that if the harvest of a single year should fail, the whole of the human race must perish. In our latitude the earth yields nothing unasked and unwooed. All of food and of clothing, all that sustains and protects the body, is the product of agricultural labor in some of its various forms.

THE PRODUCT OF LABOR THE ONLY REAL WEALTH.

Agriculture is the foundation of wealth. The sea renders her tribute; but the earth presents to skill and industry richer and infinitely varied contributions.—Money is not wealth. It is only the representative of wealth. Money is coveted because it can command labor; but of what use would it be, if labor would not be commanded? What would it avail to possess all the riches of Potosi, if thereby we could not acquire the products of agriculture? What are the manufactures concerned in but these products? What freights the barks of commere in their liquid flight, threading every channel and whitening every port, but the products of agriculture? What constitutes the wealth of the country but her cotton, hemp, sugar, rice, tobacco, wool, wheat, beef, and pork! Agriculture only can be considered as the creator of wealth. The merchant, the manufacturer, the sailor, the various artisans and tradesmen perform their part in making the products of agriculture more valuable; in transporting them so that the advantages of climate are equalized, and in putting them in a condition for use; but agriculture alone produces. Like the leader of Israel, she strikes the rock, the waters flow, and a famishing people are satisfied. She supplies, she feeds, she quickens all. Agriculture is the commanding interest of the country, with which no single interest, nor indeed all other interests of a secular nature combined, can be brought into competition.

AGRICULTURE A SCIENCE DISCLOSING A MINE OF WONDERS.

Agriculture deserves the attention of liberal minds as a science. Like many other sciences, it is in its infancy. We have broken only the outer crust; but it comprehends the mysteries of philosophy. It involves the whole science of life in the vegetable and animal kingdoms; the miracles of actual production, and the power which man may exercise in modifying vegetable and animal existence. The rearing of a tree, the maturing of a vegetable, the production of a flower, the forming of a race of animals, with shapes, and dispositions, and qualities, modified to a great extent according to your wishes, are in themselves miracles of a power delegated to man, which an intelligent mind recognizes as divine.

Whoever, looking at a dried seed and kernel, considers what it may become, when the plant shall yield bread or the tree spread out its branches loaded with fruit, whoever considers the nature of the life which lies buried in this shell, and reflects upon the combined influences of earth, and air, and moisture, and heat, and cultivation, in their inscrutable operations, all requisite in precise times, quantities and modes of application, to bring it to perfection, will perceive subjects of inquiry suited to occupy the most gifted intellect. As he approaches this mine of wonders, his bosom will pant with an irrepressible curiosity to gain admission into the hiding place of the Divinity, and to quench his burning thirst at the original fountains of power, life, intelligence, and light. Geology, chemistry, botany, all the branches of natural philosophy, natural history, in its diversified departments, animal and vegetable physiology, comparative anatomy, mechanics, meteorology, all are involved in an improved agriculture. The nature of soils has been long a subject of philosophical investigation; and that, with the application and operation of manures, seems now to be holding in reserve for chemistry its most brilliant triumphs. Do I offend a fastidious ear by a reference to a topic so humble? In looking at the master-piece of human genius in sculpture, the Venus de Medicis, the vulgar mind brings away from the contemplation no higher sentiment than that it is naked. The pure and disciplined mind hardly conscious of this fact, and feeling the responsive movements of the divinity within itself, admires with adoring wonder the triumphs of genius in this sensible embodiment of the highest beauties of form in the works of the Creator. So it is with other objects in nature, so much depends upon the eye with which we look at them. The vulgar mind, in the heap of manure by the road side, thinks only of its offensiveness and corruption. The well disciplined mind regards it as an element in one of the most affecting miracles of the Divine power, and adores that beneficent agency, which, in its mysterious operations, converts this refuse into fruits and flowers.

To consider agriculture as mere servile drudgery, is no more doing it justice, than to consider chemistry as only the art of mingling acids and alkalies, and handling pots and retorts, and crucibles, and filters.—Let the man of cultivated and philosophical mind approach the subject of agriculture, and he finds "sermons in stones and books in the running streams."—Let him engage in its humblest labors, and the same furrow, which is to bear upon its inverted surface the golden grain to nourish his animal life, will produce bread to eat, which common minds know not of, to nourish his intellectual and moral being. There is not one of the natural, or what are called the practical sciences, which may not have a bearing upon agriculture. It is with agriculture as in other cases, that mere theory will make no man a farmer. The common processes and the successful execution of the common labors of husbandry can be learned only by practice. He who would handle a plough well, must have been accustomed to walk in the furrow; as the only safe pilot is the man who has been practised to stand at the helm. But to think that because we have done these things, that therefore we understand agriculture, is as wise as for the man, who should wade up to his ankle in some puddle left by the receding tide upon the sea shore, to pretend that the ocean is not very deep.

The nature and use of soils, the artificial combination of them in different cases so as to effect the largest growth and productiveness, the nature of manures, their uses, application, operations, and infinite varieties, their mechanical influences, and their chemical effects, the varieties of grasses, grains, plants, and fruits, which are or may be cultivated, the habits of vegetables and the propogation of new varieties the influences of light, and heat, and air, and dew, and rain, and electricity upon vegetation, and how far they may be controlled by human ingenuity or skill, the history and habits of the domestic animals and the modes of rearing them to the highest degree of perfection, the construction of farm implements so as to combine the greatest effects with the least expense of power, the history of agriculture, its condition and improvements at home and abroad, rural labor, rural architecture, agricultural education, the intellectual and moral improvement of the agricultural classes, the connection of agriculture with national wealth, and with its great sisters, manufactures and commerce, and above all, its bearings upon domestic and public happiness, upon domestic morals—these topics, among others which might be named, show that agriculture is not destitute, to a philosophic mind, of matters of profound scientific inquiry.

"TRUE POLITENESS" IN THE COUNTRY AND THE CITY.

Agriculture, as a pursuit, commends itself to persons of refined taste and sentiment. I know how I shall startle the ear of city fastidiousess by such an assertion; but I rely upon your candor that I shall not offend by the expression of my honest convictions.—There is much in the country that is vulgar, rude and offensive. There is no occasion for this. This is not the fault of the country. But is there more of this in the country than is to be found in cities? These things depend much upon ourselves. The artificial forms of social intercourse do not prevail in the country as in the town—at least they are not the same; but it is often delightful to lay aside, at least for a while, the buckrum and the starch. I have been through life familiar with all classes of people. I have been for many years a citizen among cities, and a farmer among the farmers. I have been a frequent visitor in city palaces, and many a time an indweller of the humblest mansions in the secluded parts of the country; and I must say, without derogating from the refinements of the most improved societies in the cities, that the comparison in respect to courtesy and civility would not turn out to the disadvantage of the country. True politeness is not matter of mere form or manner, but of sentiment and heart. There are rude and vulgar people every where, but will not a sober judgment pronounce it as great a rudeness to be sent knowingly away from the door of one who calls herself a friend by a servant with a lie put in his mouth, as to be received by the kind woman who welcomes us heartily at her wash-tub, or her spinning-wheel, and sweeps a place for us without apology to sit down at her kitchen fire. You will pardon the homeliness of my illustrations. You may thrend your beautiful valley from the ocean to the mountains; you may, as I have done, follow the silver stream, whose honored name is borne by your Commonwealth, from the place where it deposits its contributions in the mighty treasury of the sea, to its gushing sources under the snow clad summits of the north, and traverse every State whose borders are laved by its gentle waters, and good manners on your part will generally be met with a corresponding civility. Excepting among the vicious and depraved, you will find no rudeness unless you are so unfortunate as to provoke it by your own arrogance.

It is folly to carry city manners and customs into the country. This destroys the simplicity which constitutes the charm of rural life. If you have no taste for rural pleasures, no interest in rural concern, no disposition for rural labors; if you are afraid of soiling your hands or browning your cheeks; if you can make no friends with the flocks that whiten the fields, nor the birds that make the hills and forests vocal with melody; if you are unwilling that the earliest rays of the dawn should disturb your repose, and your heart kindles with no enthusiasm in golden sunset, then flee the country as you would the Siberian desert. It would be to you only a land of discomfort and solitude.

AGRICULTURE THE DELIGHT OF GIFTED INTELLECTS.

But it is otherwise with many minds. Agriculture

and horticulture, far from being disdained, have been of all others, the chosen pursuits, the purest delights of some of the most gifted intellects; and their enthusiasm in these pursuits burnt with increasing intensity to the close of life. From the turmoils of war, the struggles of political ambition, the harrassing pursuits of successful trade, the busiest scenes of life, from the forum, the senate, and the throne, they have retired gladly to the humble occupation and pleasures of rural life and labor, and have found the precious gem, which they had so long sought, only in this calm philosophy of nature.

The country is the land of poetry, and the home of the winged imagination, as much as it is the home of the birds. The charms of the country are unconsciously acknowledged even in cities, when you see how they, who live in cities, love to get a grass plat, though not larger than a handkerchief, before their doors; or train a woodbine or a honeysuckle to their piazzas; or crowd their windows with flowers, or adorn their persons with a floral wreath. The first offerings of the muses were dedicated to rural life. In the waving of the golden harvest, in the verdant lawn spreading its smooth carpet beneath your feet, in the prairie ocean of verdure radiant with the richest gems of floral beauty, in the deep and solemn forest, in the mirrored lake reflecting in perfect distinctness the mingled beauties of forests and skies, in the flowing river an image of eternity, in the mountain lifting its crested top above the clouds, in the boundless horizon, in the reddening dawn, in the gorgeousness of a summer's sunset, in the mingled splendors of the autumnal forest, there is every thing to kindle the imagination and dilate the heart. When in the advancing spring the man of reflecting mind and cultivated taste, at break of day, witnesses the waking up of creation, beholds the desolation of winter rapidly retiring before the empire of spring, and sees day after day, almost hour after hour, new forms of vegetable and animal life starting into existence, it requires no violent effort of the imagination to behold a new Eden rising before him, and to hear the chorus of the morning stars, and "the sons of God shouting for joy."

MORE SYMPATHY, MORE CHARITY, A HIGHER VALUE SET UPON HUMAN LIFE IN THE COUNTRY THAN IN THE CITY.

In speaking of the moral aspects of agriculture, I shall make no invidious comparisons. The country presents as few temptations to vicious indulgence as any condition in life: perhaps it may be said fewer temptations. Agricultural labor, unless pursued to an excess, so far from being exhaustive and destructive like much other labor, is friendly to health, and favorable to intellectual vigor and length of life. The domestic ties seem stronger in the country than in the city, because we are more dependent on each other, and have fewer objects to engross our attention. Human life seems more valued in the country than in the city. In the crowded city men drop out of the stream, and the vacancy is instantly filled up by the rushing torrent, and scarcely produces in the spectators a conscious emotion. When a valuable man dies in the country, the whole village mourns the blow. There is more of real kindness and benevolent sympathy in the country than in cities. The cities are full of magnificent charities, the country is full of the charity of kind offices. In the country, is a neighber sick or afflicted, the whole neighborhood are prompt to visit him, to aid him by personal service, and to watch night after night at his sick bed.—In cities it cannot be so. Cities present some of the most bitter cases of friendlessness to be found in human history. Persons suffer, and sicken, and die, without perhaps the cognizance of those living under the same roof and on the same floor. In the country personal character has a higher value than in cities.—In cities every thing is absorbed in the great whirl of business or pleasure; and in crowds, presenting every variety of character as of costume, men pass along without observation. In the country every man is known, observed, and watched. His character seems the common property of the village. This is sometimes complained of in the country as impertinence and intrusiveness. This may sometimes be the case, and it may become annoying; but it is not so frequent as the complaint of it. That it has a favorable influence upon good morals which, under the weakness of human nature, need every security, there can be no doubt.

In the healthful labors of the country, the early hours, the simple diet, in the open air, in the virtuous restraints, in the general good morals which prevail, in the strong sympathy and mutual interest in each other's character and welfare, which bind such communities together, in the absence of multiplied temptations and facilities of vice, which prevail in more populous communities, an agricultural life is highly favorable to virtue.

PHILOSOPHY, REFINEMENT, MORALS, THE CONCOMITANTS OF AGRICULTURE.

I hope I shall be excused for dwelling so long upon the advantages of agricultural and rural life. Agriculture has been too long denied the rank which belongs to it among the pursuits of mankind. I would speak of it as one of the highest pursuits of philosophy. I would gladly commend it to persons of refined sentiment, as abounding in scenes, objects and associations, full of gratification to the most cultivated mind; and for its moral securities and moral influences; it needs no recommendation in a community like yours, presenting in its beautiful villages, among its swelling hills, and its richly cultivated vales, in the character of its rural population, such emphatical demonstrations of improved education, of correct morals, and of the best influences of religion.

I have bare glanced at these topics, because I would not encroach upon your indulgence. I have done this with the more earnestness, because the tendency of our young people, impelled by avarice or by false views of happiness, has been to forsake the wholesome pursuits of agriculture, where they found health, competence, and a manly independence, for occupations in the cities, oftentimes of the most servile character; degrading to their self-respect, corrupting to their passions, and proving often the grave of their virtue. Our cities likewise are crowded with young men of professional education, who, with hearts aching from hopes deferred, linger along from year to year until the health is exhausted, habits of indolence are induced and confirmed, and the best portion of life is wasted away without the accomplishment of any valuable object; or the enjoyment of those domestic ties, in which Heaven designed that man should find the strongest security of virtue and the purest fountains of happiness.

AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENTS BETTER THAN SPLENDID HOUSES.

I would likewise gladly commend this subject to another class of individuals, whose attention I fear, however, I shall beapeak in vain. Whoever visits our great cities is constantly struck with amazement at the enormous expense and splendor of many of the private residences; at the extravagant piles of brick and stone, seldom half tenanted, and adapted to real comfort and convenience in an inverse ratio to their inordinate size and their wasteful magnificence. I would seldom, indeed, advise a person, accustomed through the prime and middle of life to the excitements of business, politics, amusements, and general society in the cities, to go at once into the seclusion of the country, especially at that period of life when the vital current becomes sluggish and the physical powers lose their wonted energies; but is it not difficult for such men when their fortunes are made, to enjoy the advantages of the city and the country together. Let them pass, if they please, their winters in the city; but what immense benefactions might they confer upon society, and what sources of agreeable and useful occupation might they find for themselves, if, instead of spending their fifties or their hundreds of thousands on a brick or stone castle in the city, which they have seldom the means of enabling their children to occupy, and which must therefore, in the course of nature, soon change hands, they would expend some three-fourths of that sum in subduing, cultivating and improving some hundreds of acres in the country, rendering them productive, and planting upon them industrious families. They would breathe into the hearts of their benefactors, the purest of pleasures in welcoming them, whenever they came among them, as their best friends. This seems one of the most useful, as it is certainly one of the most innocent purposes to which wealth can be applied.

CAN AGRICULTURE BE MADE PROFITABLE?

But I must pass on to other topics. The next question then which arises in this case, is whether agriculture can be made profitable: and especially whether it can be made profitable in New England? This is a great question. I can only reply briefly, without going into the various illustrations which might be presented. I will here express my thorough disgust for that inordinate and grovelling avarice, which can find no good but in the accumulation of dollars and cents. Wealth is to be valued for its uses, not for its amount; and a philanthropist can look with sorrow and alarm upon that heartless and frenzied spirit of accumulation, which at one time, like a terrible epidemic, threatened to lay waste all principle and honor, and to render contentment, competence, and reasonable and moderate desires, matters of pure romance, which we had somewhere read of in our childhood. By the righteous laws of Divine Providence, that inordinate thirst for gain without industry, temperance, or frugality, has been so signally rebuked that it will not again immediately show itself. There may still be the appearance of life in its quivering limbs, but few will have courage or power to attempt its resuscitation.

In the southern portions of our country, favored for the purpose by its peculiar climate and soil, we hear of agricultural returns in their great staples, which confounded the humble calculations to which we in New England are accustomed. Yet there are abatements in the case, in the perils to health, and in the nature of the labor by which these products are procured, which, save where the heart is cankered with avarice and inhumanity, at once relieve a New England man of all envy of such success. The fact likewise presents itself in the case, strange as the anomaly may seem, that the southern planters are not richer than the northern farmers; they have not so many of the real comforts of life. Many a New England farmer is more independent with his income of a few hundreds, than a southern master of his uncounted acres and his hundreds of slaves, with his income of many thousands. I do not say these things in the spirit of invidious comparisons; I would not mar the pleasures of the occasion by awakening a single unkind feeling. But we may learn, from the facts in the case, a lesson of gratitude, that we are permitted to breathe the bracing air of northern mountains and seas, and the still more invigorating atmosphere of equality of condition and universal freedom.

Agriculture in New England presents no brilliant prizes to the mind bent solely on the accumulation of wealth. Yet rough, barren, and inhospitable as New England seems to many persons, yet I can show you, in every town from Lake Champlain to the Aroostook, and from Saybrook to the Canada line, not a few examples of men, who by farming have maintained their families in health and comfort, educated their children well, and if so they pleased, found the means of sending one or more sons to college; exercised, as far as they had occasion, an unstinted hospitality; contributed their full share of the public dues, and are now enjoying the evening of life with an honest conscience and a competence for every reasonable want. The house, in such case, may appear moss-covered and brown with age. No burnished lamps light up its halls, and no carpet soft as down cover its floors; but infinitely preferable is such a dwelling to palaces, where once wealth, the product of defrauded labor, illuminated every room, and revelry and luxury held their frequent courts; and where now, though bankruptcy has long since entered, men are still living upon the fragments of former luxury or upon hoarded gains, in defiance of justice and honor.

ADVANTAGES OF HIGH CULTIVATION.

Further, my inquiries have satisfied me, that there is not a single crop well cultivated in New England, which in ordinary seasons will not pay a fair rent of the land at current prices, and liberally compensate the labor and cultivation. Our proximity to quick markets gives us great advantages over many parts of the country. In one of my visits to a town on the seashore of Massachusetts, in a region whose rock-bound surface seemed to have set cultivation at defiance, I found several acres of land subdued and improved at the rate of three hundred dollars per acre. Could this be afforded? Look at the case. The land was made to produce three tons of hay to the acre. The price of hay in the vicinity has averaged for years, at least fifteen dollars. The value of one ton of hay per year, is sufficient to gather the crop and keep the land in condition. Thirty dollars then are the net return for the investment. These are examples of extraordinary expenditure and ample profits. The crop of Indian corn is the greatest blessing of our country. The average crop in New England is thirty bushels. It is not difficult to produce fifty to an acre. I have known one hundred and eleven produced on an acre in Massachusetts, as measured after being shelled and dried. At fifty bushels per acre, rating the rough fodder as equal to a ton of English hay, and the grain at seventy cents per bushel, the return may be considered as equal to fifty dollars. Thirty dollars may be considered a high average price for cultivation, and this including the interest upon the value of the land at fifty dollars per acre.

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(We here omit the sections entitled "Comparative Products, and Income of the East and West, "Great Improvements in Stock and Agricultural Imple-

ments," and his remarks on Silk Culture.—EDS. FARMER.)

COMFORTS OF A NEW ENGLAND WINTER.

The long winters of New England are often complained of. But let us look at this. The season of cultivation is long enough for the maturing and perfection of all the vegetable products which the climate and soil are capable of producing; and these embraces an abundance and profusion of the most valuable grains, grasses, vegetables, and fruits, for the whole year. The temperature is favorable to labor. The long winters bring with them opportunities of social intercourse of the most delightful character. While the bracing air of winter gives elasticity to the muscles and vigor to the mind, it affords, in its leisure from out-door labor, the most favorable opportunities for intellectual improvement. The farmer, in this respect, has advantages which fall to the lot of few other conditions in life. Happy is it for him, when an enlarged education and a taste for books and scientific inquiries enable him to improve them to the greatest advantage. Under these circumstances, no condition in life, to a man of reasonable desires, whose heart is not poisoned by avarice or ambition, seems more privileged or more enviable.

I have said that agriculture as an art, is as yet imperfectly understood. But it is encouraging to contemplate the improvements which have been made in it within the last half or even quarter of a century, and the rapidity which it is still advancing.

HORTICULTURE AND FLORTICULTURE.

Among the interesting exhibitions of this occasion, Horticulture and Florticulture have presented their liberal contributions. In the variety and perfection of Indian corn, esculent vegetables, and the most valuable fruits, we see every reason to be satisfied with our local condition. If peculiar obstacles to their cultivation present themselves in the soil or climate of New England, we may with an honest pride congratulate ourselves upon that industry and skill, which in defiance of such obstacles successfully produces them in abundance and perfection.

Flora, likewise, on this charming occasion, holds her court among you, adorned with more than oriental splendor. In the two great florial kingdoms of nature, the botanical and the human, if we must yield the palm to that which is alike transcendant in the beauty of form and motion, and in the higher attributes of intelligence, innocence and moral perfection, yet it can be no derogation to admire, with a rapture bordering upon enthusiasm, the splendid products of the garden; and especially when their beauties are combined and arranged as on this occasion, with an exquisite and refined taste. What is the heart made of which can find no sentiment in flowers? In some of the most striking displays of this occasion, in the dahlias for example, we see what can be done by human skill and art in educating and training a simple and despised plant, scarcely thought worthy of cultivation, to the highest rank in gayety and glory and ever varying perfection in the aristocracy of flowers. We may learn from such success, a lesson of encouragement in the education and training of flowers of an infinitely higher value and perfection.

The vast creation of God, the centre and source of good, is every where radiant with beauty. From the shell that lies buried at the depths of the ocean to the twinkling star that floats in the still more profound depths of the firmament, through all the forms of material and animated existence, beauty, beauty, beauty prevails. In the floral kingdom it appears in an infinite variety, in an unstinted and even rich profusion than in other departments of nature. While these contributions are thrown out so lavishly at our feet, and a taste for flowers seems almost an instinct of nature, and is one of the most innocent and refined sentiments which we can cultivate, let us indulge and gratify it to the utmost extent, whereever leisure, opportunity, and fortune give us the means. There is no danger of an excess under these reasonable restrictions, which all our sentiments demand. "But," says some cynical objector, "flowers are only to please the eye." And why should not the eye be pleased? What sense may be more innocently gratified? They are among the most simple, and at the same time among the cheapest luxuries in which we can indulge.

The taste for flowers, every where increasing among us, is an omen for good. Let us adorn our parlors, doorways, yards, and roadsides, with trees, and shrubs, and flowers. What a delight do they give to the passer by? What favorable impressions do they at once excite towards those who cultivate their own gratification, and find, after all, their chief pleasure in the gratification they afford to others. What an affecting charm, associated as it is with some of the best sentiments of our nature, do they give to the sad dwelling places of the departed and beloved.

The moral influences of such embellishments demands our consideration. I do not mean merely the substitution of such refined tastes and pursuits in place of the gratification of the lower appetites. This is no small matter. But another influence should not be overlooked.

Every one familiar with human life must be sensible that mere personal neatness and order are themselve securities of virtue. As we cultivate these habits and in respect to our residences and the things and objects around us, make a study of rendering them orderly and beautiful, and of adding to them the highest embellishments of art, our own self respect is greatly increased. Next to religious principle nothing operates more than self-respect, as a safeguard to virtue and a stimulant to excellence.

"HOME, SWEET HOME."

The direct tendency of all such embellishments in our grounds and habitations is to multiply the attractions of home, and to strengthen the domestic ties. It is the glory of New England that these precious ties are no where stronger or more sacred. I would bind her children if possible, by chains a thousand times more enduring. In all my journeyings into other lands, favored as they may be by the highest advantages of climate and soil, I come back to New England with all the enthusiasm of a first love, and a filial affection which, if possible, has only gained new strength from absence. Indeed there is every thing in her to love and honor. Let us seek to render every spot of her rude territory beautiful. To the eminent picturesqueness of her natural scenery, adding the triumphs of an industrious, skilful, and tasteful cultivation, every substantial want of our nature will be supplied, every refined sentiment of the mind gratified; and the true New England heart will seek no other Eden this side of that better country where flowers bloom with a radiance which never fades, and "one unbounded and eternal spring encircles all"

A Correction--Feeding Berkshires.

MESSRS. EDITORS—I wish to correct a small mistake that appeared in the published report of the committee on Swine, appointed by the Tompkins County Agricultural and Horticultural Society to report at its last annual fair. It is contained in the extract you have made from that report (on page 24, last month.) It reads "Fat, 8¾....6¾....9." It should be *Feet*. The error is a small one, but is somewhat important, as it shows the difference in the coarseness of the three animals. I made another experiment the past fall in cutting up two three-quarter blood Berkshire hogs, and found the result to correspond very nearly with the table you have published, although the hogs were heavier, weighing 360 each.

The reading of T. C. Peters' valuable letter on the subject of "Piggery and Pork Making," induces me to give you a short account of my method of wintering store swine, consisting of ten full blood Berkshire breeding sows, three full blood Berkshire boars, and shoats of different ages, to make in all twenty-two. These I have shut up in lots of from two to four each, and feed them twice a day, say morning and evening, with one cent's worth of boiled corn each—corn at 3s. 6d. per bushel—or 1 lb. 4oz. each, before it is boiled. I boil the corn about twelve hours by putting it over the stove in the morning in a copper boiler, and let it cook through the day—let it cool in the night, and feed it the next day. I find that twenty-eight pounds of corn, when boiled will weigh sixty-eight pounds, and it increases as much in bulk as in weight. I feed no water nor slop of any kind to my hogs; they have nothing but the boiled corn, and they come out in the spring in as good condition as they were in the fall. This is the second winter that I have pursued this practice. I have also tried the plan of boiling potatoes and ruta baga, and mixing bran, shorts, &c. with them, to make swill; but it costs more that way than on boiled corn.

I wish to inquire of Col. Sawyer whether the portraits that you gave of his Berkshire swine are correct in their proportions. If they are not they have a tendency to mislead the public; but if they are correct they add value to your journal. It is a subject that I hope gentlemen giving portraits of animals will be careful about,—that the beauty of the portraits may depend on the excellence of the animal and not on the skill and fancy of the artist.

Yours respectfully,

E. CORNELL.

Ithaca, Tompkins Co., Feb., 1841.

Remark.—The Portraits are pronounced *very correct*.—EDS.

Maple Sugar.

The following communication contains excellent hints on the subject of making maple sugar. The two leading requisites for success, we believe to be, boiling the sap as fresh from the tree as possible, and the most punctillious cleanliness in all the different operations. As the season for this work will soon commence, we recommend the remarks of our correspondent to those interested, as well as those of A. S. Chew, from the Ohio Farmer, published last year on page 45 of this journal. We believe it to be as easy and economical, by proper management, to make beautiful, white, crystalized maple sugar, as the common, dirty looking, brown substance, which is not generally in fact, the very cleanest production of the material world.

MESSRS. EDITORS—Having seen in your paper an inquiry for making a vat or box for boiling sap, and having long wondered that so little attention was given to making maple sugar, I give some of my own experience in relation to it. I have been surprised to see so little disposition to improve the usual mode of catching the sap in troughs, and boiling it in kettles hung on a pole, by which it is filled with all manner of filth, and the article of maple sugar, (the purest of all sweets,) rendered unwholesome and forbidding as it comes into market.

From twenty years' experience and observation, using kettles in various ways, I have adopted sheet-iron pans, which are here coming into common use, and have been used for ten or twelve years with good success. Pans with sheet-iron bottoms and wooded sides did not succeed well. The pans are simply a sheet of Russia iron turned up at the sides and ends about three inches, and will hold about three pails while boiling. A rim of band iron is rivetted round, about one inch wide, with rings as handles. The cost of a pan is about $4. Two or three are set lengthwise on an arch, built of stone; from one and a half to two feet in depth, and about twenty inches in breadth, the pan being about twenty-two inches. The arch should be even on top, and a wide bar of wrought or cast iron across the arch between and under the pans to prevent the heat from the fire reaching the sides. The pans are slid off when emptied. One of these will boil about as much as a cauldron kettle.

I have for some years past used six, set three on an arch, side by side, and have about six hundred trees with buckets for the same, and average about twelve hundred pounds per year of sugar, which fetches eleven cents per pound, and the profits are from $80 to $100. This is done at a season of the year when little else can be done on a farm.

The sugar boiled in pans, I believe to be ten per cent better than in kettles, other things being equal. To make maple sugar as it should be, much care is needed to keep every thing used about it clean and sweet, and the sap should be boiled as soon as it can be to prevent fermentation. Maple sap of itself has no color, and if it could be crystalized without stain, would be white and transparent, and the sweet of the purest kind. Much is said about cleansing sugar, but

the better remedy is to keep it clean. Pearlash or saleratus put into the syrup while over the fire, will remove the acidity caused by fermentation.

GEO. HUMPHREY.

Guilford, Feb., 1841.

Low Prices favorable to National Exports and National Wealth.

Messrs. Editors—Within the last two weeks 12,000 to 15,000 barrels of flour have been purchased at $4,75 in New York, for shipment to England. Before this can be consumed there, it must pay 50 cents per bbl. freight, $3 duty in the English port, and about 25 cents commission, &c., which will make the price to the consumer in England about $8,50 per barrel.

Thus, in spite of the duty of $3 per bbl. on American flour in England for the protection of her agricultural interests, their profits are very much reduced by the competition of our bread stuffs in their own markets.

The friends of free trade in the United States, may well cite the above facts to show the bitter fruits of a high protective tariff. They say that it only inflates prices at home, thus enabling the British manufacturer to undersell us not only in the foreign market, but also in our own ports. The experience of the last two years most positively shows that the low prices of our agricultural productions have had the effect to treble our exports of manufactured articles, a consummation which could not have taken place under a protective tariff with high prices for the necessaries of life and consequent high prices of labor.

When the agricultural staples of a country are sold at low prices, the price of manufactured articles conform to them,—both become substantially the articles of exportation, and the country gets out of debt much faster than it would if prices were so high as to stop exportation. Another and paramount advantage to the country, from the low prices of its productions, is the great spur it gives to our maratime commercial interests. We now no longer hear of ships rotting at the wharves; they are busily employed carrying the products of our soil and our work shops to every part of the world.

Should England take off the duty on American flour, would not English corn have to fall in price as a necessary consequence, or be driven into the granaries, by imported bread stuffs? Certainly it must, and the result would be that all manufactured articles in England would be sold at correspondent low prices. English manufactures would then more successfully compete with our own, in our markets in spite of our duty, and they would effectually drive our manufactures out of the great South American and other foreign markets.

But although we are opposed in the main to a tariff exclusively for protection, we feel that a tariff for revenue should be so mended and increased as to act as a countervailing duty, while it also protects those branches of American industry which have already commenced in the absence of all protection.

It is said that every hogshead of tobacco shipped to France pays an impost there of $300. As France cannot produce tobacco, this duty is ten fold as onerous to the American tobacco planters, as the operation of the corn laws of England can be to the wheat growers of the United States, as our foregoing remarks will explain. Hence we premise that the most fastidious advocate of free trade will not oppose countervailing duties on French silks and wine. We have in a previous communication shown that the balance of trade against us with France is more than 14 millions annually. A balance which has heretofore been paid by drafts on England, State Stocks, United States Bank Stocks, &c. &c. But since the failure of both States and Bank, ought not such excessive *free* importation to fail also? S. W.

Cause of the "Decay of Ruta Bagas."

Messrs. Thomas & Batehan—I see in your paper of January, an inquiry made by Silas Pratt, of Chili, as to the cause of his Ruta Bagas rotting.

I have, the last fourteen years, cultivated both the sugar beet and ruta baga, raising from 2000 to 3000 bushels for my cows. I have almost invariably found that *when I sowed early* my roots were more or less rotted. In 1839 I lost most of my crop from that cause, having sowed the seed as early as the first of June. The last season I sowed from the 15th to 20th. I had scarcely a defective one. I have always observed that those which are sowed early grow very rapidly at first, but are generally checked in their growth by the heat and drought of July, in which state they remained until the fall rains set in, when, from so great a change from drought to excessive moisture, the roots crack open, rot, and disappoint the expectations of the farmer. Should these suggestions prove of service to Mr. Pratt, or any others who have met with a similar disappointment, it will give pleasure to

A NEW SUBSCRIBER.

Roxbury, Mass., Feby. 1841.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Rats and Rat Catching.

Messrs. Editors—The sagacity and cunning of this little animal are really extraordinary, and its daring courage is truly remarkable, considering its small size. Although almost every body can produce a budget of stories about rats; yet how few are there who have accurately observed their habits, or even sufficiently to rid themselves of such destructive vermin; and it here occurs to my mind that I have never seen the subject treated on in an agricultural paper. We may often see people carefully baiting traps in a place where rats are swarming, and marvelling that none can be tempted to enter; when the simple reason is that from want of a little consideration, the sagacious instinct of the little animal is a match for the bad attempts made to capture it. The black rat *(mus rattus)* is characterized by the body being black above, while the brown or Norway rat, *(mus decummans,)* has the upper part of the body covered with light brown hair, and whitish underneath. The black rats are not very numerous, because the brown rats prey on them whenever they meet—the brown rats aid likewise in keeping their own species in check, a large rat being the terror of the small ones. If it were not for this fact, we should surely be overrun, for they are very prolific, breeding three times a year; producing from ten to twenty in a litter.

The enemies most dreaded by the rat are the common weasel and the ferret. These little creatures, in proportion to their size, are more blood thirsty and daring than the most tremendous and rapacious quadrupeds. A cat or a dog cannot follow a rat into its hole, consequently they are of little use, compared with the weasel or ferret. Only turn a single one down a rat hole, and the horror and alarm created is soon manifest. The rats fly with all possible speed, the ferret pursuing and darting at the neck. I have been acquainted with several men who followed this occupation, and they told me that their ferrets were frequently wounded severely, sometimes losing an eye in the conflict; but the moment it fixes itself on the neck, its victim is secured, for it cannot be shaken off until it has drained the life blood.

Farmers may sometimes drive away rats from their premises in the summer season, by blocking up their holes with broken glass, [or blacksmith's cinders.—Eds.] and plastering them with mortar, repeating the process wherever new holes appear.

Among other expedients, I have tried a box balanced on a stick, with a bait on the end. One morning i found my box down, and on raising it I found no rat, but a quantity of little chips, for the little rogue had gnawed his way out; but this I remedied with a narrow strip of tin round the lower edge. Another way is to smear a rat, (when caught,) all over with spirits of turpentine, set it on fire, and start him into one of the most frequented holes. A friend once told me that he took a full grown rat, and first cutting off his tail and ears, he singed off the hair, and fastened a fringe of stiff writing paper round his neck and let him go; but the whole body politic did not choose to be scared for one unlucky vagrant.

Now, my advice to any of your readers who may be troubled with rats is, to procure, if possible, a weasel or ferret, and turn him into the principle holes about once a month. But if neither can be procured, try the expedients above mentioned; but in case of these failing, the rats may be materially checked by persevering in the use of traps, baited with the following mixture:—Take of oatmeal one quart, one grain of musk, and six drops of the oil of rhodium. Put the musk and oil into sufficient sweet milk to moisten the meal; then mix all together in a stiff paste. The oil of rhodium can generally be procured at a druggist's store; and seldom fails, together with the musk, to draw rats into any place. Caution is requisite to guard against the common cause of traps failing, which is the smell of the hand. This can be avoided by using an old knife or spoon. W. N. H.

Yates Co., Feb., 1841.

Hundreds of thousands of dollars are yearly wasted in this State by the depredations of rats, and the subject is well worthy of attention. Dr. Godman, who says they "are the veriest scoundrels in the brute creation," (though more excusable than some other scoundrels,) recommends poisoning them with nux vomica, mixed with corn meal, and scented with oil of rhodium, which he says is very effectual. In using steel traps, a good way is to conceal them in light bran, using a spoon instead of the hands in covering them, although in this case, when the surface of the bran has been profusely baited, we have sometimes seen it marked thickly with their tracks, except directly over the trap.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

The Importance of Indian Corn as a Crop for Man and Beast.

Messrs. Editors—Humbolt says that the *Musa Paradisica*, misnamed by his translator Banana, instead of Plantain, is to the inhabitants of the torrid zone, what the cereal grasses, wheat, rye, oats, and barley, are to the inhabitants of Europe.

A single bunch of this vegetable weighs from 66 to 88 lbs. It is probable, as Humbolt asserts, that there is no other plant capable of producing so much nutriment, on so small a space of ground,—still, the cultivation of Maize (Indian) corn is much more general in equinoctial America, bot hfor the subsistance of man and beast, than any other vegetable production.—Ought not this single fact to encourage our farmers to give more of their attention to the crop of Indian corn. There is no doubt but that on a first rate soil, 100 bushels per acre may be easily produced. A heavy growth of stocks as fodder, particularly in a dry season, has never yet been duly appreciated; and the working of the soil planted with corn, is a certain means of eradicating those weeds which are so often introduced by manure in the cultivation of the cereal grasses. S. W.

Erratum.—Page 42, Col. 1st, line 23, of this number, for "him" read &c.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Hills and Forest Trees.

MESSRS. EDITORS—During our peregrinations this winter, which have not been 'few nor far between,' though confined chiefly to this State, we have seen many, very many, beautiful farms; and which we believe might be rendered still more beautiful by a little attention, and at a comparatively trifling expense on the part of the owners, to a portion of them now nearly or quite useless and unproductive.

We allude to the small gravel and sand hills (in some instances calcareous) so common throughout our State, more particularly in the Western part of it. Many of these are so steep that when the surface is disturbed by the plough, (which should never be,) much, and in some instances nearly all the productive portions of the soil is washed down by heavy rains, and finds its way to the plains below; and as these, by this unavoidable process, (if the surfaces of steep declivities are disturbed,) become enriched, the hills become impoverished, and very nearly in the same ratio.

One who has not closely observed these operations, can have no adequate conception of the vast quantity of earth that descends from mountains and hills, when these are disrobed of their natural covering by any of the operations of art, even when undisturbed by cultivation. In many instances these effects are ruinous to both, for years at least, and perhaps would require a century to regain their wonted fertility. Now all this may be prevented, and in our opinion ought to be; and will therefore venture to propose the following beautifying, cheap, and at the same time profitable, method of accomplishing so desirable an object.

Let the owners of these hitherto naked and comparatively unproductive and unseemly hills, provide themselves with a few bushels of chestnuts, black-walnuts, hickory-nuts, butternuts, acorns of the several kinds, as well as the seeds of the pine and locust —in short, all, or any of the seeds of our native forest trees, which fancy, taste, or utility may dictate.—There are also many shrubs that are eminently beautiful, and worthy the attention not only of the horticulturist but of the agriculturist; all or any of them might be selected at pleasure, to beautify, enrich, and adorn these now uninviting portions of their farms. The seeds should be gathered as soon as fully ripe, and sown, without depriving them of their natural covering, broadcast, in November or December. This method is to be preferred for the sake of avoiding that detestable regularity too frequently observable in door yards, lawns, and pleasure grounds, as well as in orchards of fruit trees. The sameness of such a view tires the eye, as does an extended plain without any undulation of surface.

If this has been neglected during the months of November and December, it can be done even now, with as great a certainty of success, as freezing is only required to facilitate the vegetating process. This done, the covering may be performed early in the spring, by means of a shovel plough or heavy harrow —the latter being preferable, as only a slight covering is required; for nature, who never errs, drops them on the surface to be covered only with a few leaves, and the work is completed; and if timely and properly performed, he will not only be astonished by the rapidity of their growth, but in a few years amply rewarded, yea a thousand fold, for all their toil and trouble: and thus these hitherto neglected portions of his farm, be the most ornamental, and probably the most valuable part of his whole domain.

Let none deem this work a useless ornament; for whatever beautifies and renders more dear to man his home, can never, by a reflecting and sensible mind, be deemed useless.

"Happy the man whose wish and care,
A few paternal acres bound;
Content to breathe his native air,
In his own ground.

Whose fields with bread, whose herds with milk,
Whose flocks supply him with attire,
Whose trees in summer yield him shade,
In winter fire."

In a future article, should this meet with a favorable reception, we may give you our thoughts on the injuries already done, when little more than half a century has elapsed since the sound of the woodman's axe was first heard in our noble forest, and in his mad career, cherishing malice propense against every tree, bush, and shrub, has well nigh swept the whole from the earth, not only to the great detriment of the soil, but even to the climate and health of our beloved country; and with it the noblest ornament and greatest source of wealth to any country—its majestic forests.

NATURAL CROOK & CO.

Hemlock Hill, near Silver Pond, Jan. 1841.

Military Fines.

An esteemed correspondent, in allusion to that part of Governor Seward's message, which relates to military fines, and conscientious scruples against paying them, suggests, that such persons pay an equivalent of the cost of military service, to be expended in books published by the American Peace Society, for distribution in the common school libraries, and in tracts to be placed in families, for the spread of the principles of peace. He wishes to throw out this hint for public attention. As his communication is rather foreign to the objects of this paper, we hope he will excuse us for not publishing it at length.

Farming in Allegany County.

Joseph B. Skiff, of Hume, Allegany co., gives the following average products of a farm in that place for the three past years, as an indication of the state of agriculture there, and not as any thing unusual or extraordinary for that region.

	1838	'39	'40
Winter wheat,	16½	17	20
Spring wheat,	18¾	12	15
Barley,	14	25	37
Oats,	27	51	40
Corn,	50	25	40
Potatoes,	300	233	288
Hay,	1½	1½	1¼

Importation of Silk.

The Journal of the American Society states that the importation of silk into the United States, during the year ending 30th of September, 1839, amounting to nearly twenty-three millions of dollars. Compared with other articles imported, that of silk is one-fourth more than the amount of any other. The amount of manufactures of cotton imported was $14,692,397: of iron. $12,051,668; of cloth and cassimeres, $7,078,806; worsted stuffs, $7,025,898; other manufactures of wool, $3,567,161; and half the value of silk and worsted stuffs, $1,169,041; total woollen goods, $18,831 90. The importation of sugar amounted to $9,924,632; linen, $6,731,278. So that the importation of silk nearly equals that of woollen and linen together, and is equal to half of the other fabrics combined.

From the Magazine of Horticulture.

On the Cultivation of the Dahlia.

Agreeably to your desire, I send you a few remarks on the cultivation of the dahlia; and, if you deem them of interest to your readers, you may insert them in your valuable Magazine.

This much esteemed flower, having been for many years a great favorite of mine, I have perhaps devoted more time to its cultivation, and had opportunities of seeing it planted in a greater variety of soils and situations than the majority of your readers; therefore, without hesitation, I give you the result of my experience.

I have invariably found the best general bloom upon those roots which were planted upon a moderately rich, sandy loam, in a cool situation—if a clay bottom, so much the more favorable—as in hot and dry situations they do not suffer so much from drought, as those planted upon a gravelly or sandy bottom.

Planting the roots upon a proper soil, near the margin of a river; or other large body of water, seems to me the best adapted to ensure a perfect bloom of this exquisitely formed flower, as the continual evaporation from the surface in warm weather, produces a humidity in the atmosphere, much more congenial to the nature of the plant, than can be accomplished by any artificial means.*

I admit that cultivators may obtain some very good flowers from plantations made upon a dry, sandy soil, but neither will the flowers be as abundant, or as large as those upon plants growing on the favorable location just noticed; and, if planted upon a strong, rich soil, the cultivator will have a much more vigorous growth of plants, but with a diminished quantity of good blooms.

These remarks will not apply to the striped and mottled varieties, so far as regards the soil. An experiment which I tried last summer, with that novel variety, Striata formosissima, leads me to the conclusion, that to bring out the colors, the plants will do better upon a poor gravelly soil, than elsewhere. The experiment was as follows:—

No. 1, I planted in poor, gravelly soil, in an open situation, and all the flowers but two were beautifully mottled.

No. 2, I planted upon a soil, as first recommended above, and not one half of the flowers were mottled.

No. 3. Three plants, very highly enriched, and every bloom but one was *self-covered*. [The same results have attended our own cultivation of the Striata formosissima.—ED.]

Respectfully yours, T. DUNLAP.

Harlem, N. Y. Nov. 10, 1840.

From the Western Farmer and Gardener.

To the Ladies.

"——"No more toil
Of their sweet gardening labor than sufficed
To recommend cool zephyr, and make ease
More easy, wholesome thirst and appetite
More grateful."—— MILTON.

Since the editors of this work are doing so much to enlighten the stronger half of creation, as to the ways and means of securing the solids and durables of life, it is but fair that something should be said to enlist the attention of the gentler sex, in regard to the ornamental.

Let me be understood, then, as giving you, one and all, an earnest request to take up the science of cultivation, in what pertains to ornamental gardening. "Poh!"—says some good house-wife, looking up from a portentious pile of stockings—"What's the use of fuddling and quidling over plants and flowers?" "Dear me!" says a young lady, between sixteen and eighteen, engaged in the momentous pursuits incident to that time of life—"How is any one to find time to attend to such things?" "Oh!" says another, "I admire plants and fine shrubbery, but then they are so expensive! one must pay so much for them, and have a man to tend them, &c., &c. And there are still others, we must confess, even among our own sex, who, should you show them the most peerless of flowers, in its fullest bloom, would tell you quite composedly, "La! that's only a rose, I've seen thousands of 'em!" To this last class, any argument on the subject of such very common affairs would be entirely out of place.

But as ladies in general, and American ladies in particular, never do any thing, even to undergoing the tightest lacing, and wearing the thinnest shoes in the coldest winter weather, without having good and sufficient reasons to sustain them, we must of course give a few solid ones, as to why the pursuit of ornamental gardening is so particularly to be recommended to them.

* Of this, we think, there can be no doubt. Mr. Thorburn, of New York, whose garden is situated at Astoria, L. I., nearly opposite Hurlgate, immediately upon the East River, running to within twenty feet of the water, has not failed, for several years, to produce an abundant bloom; while cultivators in the interior, at Jamaica, and at Brooklyn, and other places, have been unable to obtain a hundred flowers from the same number of plants. But, as it is impossible for most cultivators to avail themselves of such a situation, the best means must be adopted for procuring flowers in such soil and situations as those who are admirers of the dahlia, possess. This will undoubtedly be best effected by planting in the best soil and most favorable aspect that the garden affords. If the soil is sandy it should be well trenched, in order that it may retain moisture a greater length of time, and allow the roots to penetrate more readily to a greater depth, which will enable the plants to withstand drought. When the extent of a garden will allow of the choice of such a locality as Mr. Dunlap recommends, it should at once be selected.—ED.

In the first place it conduces to health. A gentleman of my acquaintance told me, that he would ride twenty miles to see one really healthy woman! and the phenomenon we think would be rare enough to justify the effort. Now all our treaties on the preservation of health, in recommending exertion as its "sine qua non," insist also, that that exercise must be taken in the open air, and that the mind must be engaged and excited equally with the body. Now what occupation fulfils these conditions like gardening? Let any one practice it a while out of doors, on a beautiful spring morning, with all the delightful excitement of laying out a border, sowing seeds, transplanting and arranging shrubbery, and they will find by the quick beat of every pulse, and the glow of the cheek, how healthful is the exercise. And as a sort of supplement to this part of my subject, I would add, that the pursuit of gardening leads directly to early rising, since some of its most important offices must be performed before the burning heats of the day come on. But, "dear me!" says some young lady, "I never get up early; if that is necessary in order to raise flowers, I never shall do it!" Never fear, my fair friend, once get your heart and soul engaged in the matter, and you will rise early, because you *cannot help it.* The images of your geraniums and roses will haunt your morning pillow, and you will be down with the first dawn, to see if the blossoms they promised the day before, have stolen forth, like beautiful spirits in the stilness of night.

Then again, gardening is a graceful accomplishment for a lady, and has so been held from the time of mother Eve—if we may credit the saying of a very clever old gentleman, one Mr. John Milton, who wrote many handsome lines to that effect, and who was very much admired in times when *every body* could'nt write such fine poetry as they can now-a-days.—We seriously think that it is every woman's province, as far as in her lies, to see that the outside of her dwelling is well arranged, trimmed, and ornamented, as to endeavor after bright brasses, pretty carpets and handsome china, in the inside.

"What is the use of flowers!" exclaims a thrifty house keeper, meanwhile busily polishing her fire-irons. What is the use of bright fire-irons, say we in reply? or of any fire-irons at all? could not you make a fire on two stones, that would keep you quite as warm? What's the use of handsome table cloths and bed spreads? one might eat on a board, and sleep under a buffalo skin, and not really starve either!

So much for the "utile." Perhaps many of our readers will remember how involuntary was the judgment they have formed, in riding by houses, as to the character of their inmates. When you see a house standing all alone, bare of shrub or flower, except perhaps some volunteer bunches of thistle and pig-weed; what do you infer of its inmates? And when you have passed even a log cabin, where the sweet brier was carefully trained around the door, while veils of morning glories and of scarlet beans, shade the win dows, do you not immediately think of the dwellers there, as nent, cheerful and agreeable? This is more especially the case in regard to the homes of the poor. The credit of the rich man's grounds may belong to his gardener, but they who can keep no gardener, and whose simple flower garden springs out of moments stolen from necessary labor, possess a genuine and cordial love of the beautiful, to render an humble dwelling so fragrant and fair.

"But then the time and expense of keeping an ornamental garden!"—says some one.—Good, my friend, this *is* a consideration—but I have used up my sheet of paper. Next month, however, I may show you how to find both time and money.

H. E. B. S.

WET FEET.—How often do we see people trampling about in the mud, with leather soaked through, and how often do such people when they return home, sit down by the fireside and permit their feet to dry without changing either their stockings or shoes.—Can we then wonder at the coughing and barking, and rheumatism and inflammation, which enable the doctors to ride in their carringes? Wet feet most commonly produce affection of the throat and lungs; and when such diseases have once taken place, "the house is on fire," danger is not far off: therefore, let us entreat our readers, no matter how healthy, to guard against wet feet.—*Med. Adv.*

He that has no bread to spare, should never keep a dog.

Population Statistics.

We annex a comparative view of the Census of the United States at the several enumerations taken by order of the general government from 1800 to 1840.—The increase of population since 1830, is at least FOUR MILLIONS. The present population of the United States is very little short of SEVENTEEN MILLIONS.

States.	1800.	1810.	1820.	1830.	1840.
Maine	151,719	228,705	298,335	399,955	501,796
N. Hamp.	183,762	214,360	244,161	269,328	284,481
Vermont	154,465	217,713	235,764	280,652	291,848
Mass.	423,245	472,040	523,287	610,408	737,466
R. Island	69,122	77,031	83,059	97,199	108,837
Conn.	251,002	262,042	275,202	297,665	310,023
New York	586,756	959,949	1,372,812	1,918,608	2,432,835
New Jer.	211,949	249,555	277,575	302,823	372,352
Penn.	602,365	810,091	1,049,458	1,348,233	§1,669,717
Delaware	64,273	72,674	72,749	76,748	78,120
Maryland	341,548	380,546	407,350	447,040	467,222
Virginia	880,200	974,622	1,065,379	1,211,405	1,231,444
N Carolina	478,103	555,500	638,829	737,987	753,110
S Carolina	345,591	415,115	502,741	581,185	549,439
Georgia	162,101	252,433	340,987	516,823	*819,164
Alabama		20,845	127,901	309,529	†479,449
Mississippi	8,850	40,352	75,448	136,621	376,099
Louisiana		76,556	153,407	215,739	‡249,638
Tennessee	105,602	261,727	422,813	681,904	a 823,037
Kentucky	220,955	406,511	564,317	687,917	
Ohio	45 365	230,760	581,434	937,903	1,515,695
Indiana	4,875	24,520	147,178	343,031	683,314
Illinois		12,283	55,211	157,455	423,934
Missouri		20,45[illegible]	66,586	140,145	c 327,731
Michigan		4,762	8,876	31 639	211,705
Arkansas			14,273	30,388	94,912
Dis. Col.	14,093	24,023	33,039	39,834	43,712
Fl. Ter.				34,730	
Wis. Ter.					30,692
Iowa Ter.					43,305
Total,	5,305,925	7,239,814	9,638,134	12,866920	15,775,843

§ Bradford county and parts of Union and Luzerne not included.
* Nine counties not received.
† Incomplete.
‡ Returns from the Western district not received.
a Part of Monroe county not received.
c Seven counties not returned according to law, and not included in this aggregate. It is supposed they have a population of about 50,000.

PROGRESS OF THE WHOLE POPULATION.

Year.	Number.	Increase.
1790.	3,929,827	
1800.	5,305,925	1,375,098 or 35.1 per cent.
1810.	7,239,814	1,933,889 " 36.3 "
1820.	9,638,131	2,398,317 " 33.1 "
1830.	12,866,920	3,227,789 " 33.5 "
1840. about	16,900,843	4,033,923 " 31.4 "

By an examination of the tables it will be seen that the white population has increased in a very uniform ratio from 1790 to the present time; the increase in no decade being less than 34 per cent., nor more than 36.1 per cent. The ratio of increase among the free colored people has been very fluctuating; but taking the colored population *en masse*, slaves and free, the fluctuation has been moderate down to 1830, and the average ratio of increase nearly as great as among the whites. But for some reason or other, (perhaps the Abolitionists can explain it,) the ratio of increase for the last ten years, has been greatly reduced, both among free negroes and slaves. A few have gone to Texas and Canada, perhaps 30,000 in all, but this affords a very imperfect explanation of the phenomenon.—*Jour. Com.*

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Education of Farmers' Children--No. 2.

Of the *kind and quantity* of education for the children of farmers, the following would be a just estimate:—1. It should be *appropriate* and *pertinent*; 2. *practical*, as far as may be; 3. *extensive* as their condition and means will permit; 4. *moral* and *intellectual*; and 5, *elevating*, and not depressing, them in their rank in life.

These particulars will comprehend more perhaps than some will be ready to admit; but, it is believed, not more than is required by all above the middling class of farmers. The acquisition of it by this portion will soon exert a salutary influence on those below them. It embraces what is necessary for all, that education in the common and elementary branches of which no youth in our country should grow up ignorant; next that which is specially pertinent to the farmer, that knowledge of agricultural subjects which is placed within his power; next, instruction in various kindred objects, and those general subjects which have a connection with our most important civil and social relations, including much of natural philosophy, some chemistry, moral philosophy, the elements of the principles of government and our constitutions and laws, and the rights and duties and privileges of citizens, and something of political economy or the knowledge of the classes of men and of production and distribution of property as well as of commerce and money.

Besides these, there are various studies, which have an *indirect* but *powerful* influence in forming the mind, and strengthening it and fitting it for thinking correctly and closely and profitably, such as algebra, geometry, languages as the Latin, botany, mineralogy, surveying, rhetoric, a portion of geology, and other things of less consequence. Those may have no direct influence upon the son or daughter in fitting them for the immediate labors of a farm, or garden, or farm house; but they exert a great influence upon the mind, to bring out its powers, and to give to it energy and activity. Several of these are important to the sons especially, and will preserve them nearer the level of the daughters, as they will keep them longer at school, will carry more of them from home a few months, and show them more of men and manners, and will place them more on their own responsibility, and tend to elevate their whole character.

It is an undoubted fact, that the daughters too often receive those advantages to a greater degree than the sons, and that the latter are depressed by the comparison. Besides, many of these extra studies are recited to both, and may be obtained by them. They will employ the sons longer, and when their minds are made more mature. But, *how far* they shall be pursued in any case, must be left to the good judgments of parents and the parties concerned. True it is, that the sons need more special attention. They would not be so likely to be dissatisfied with their condition in life, and another end would be gained too by such a course; the daughters, expecting a settlement in the same relative condition, would have a stronger inducement to qualify themselves for those household duties, for which they will find a strong and constant call. In this respect, there is need, too, of correction of mistakes, and the practical education of the daughters should go on hand in hand with that of the sons. The latter should not alone be required to labor and toil in the appropriate works of a farmer and of a farmer's house. For these domestic duties, there needs a wise preparation. *He that by the plough would thrive, must either hold or drive,* is a plain practical truth in all places, and conditions, and business. The mistress of a family has no less occasion for its application than the farmer himself.

Finally, such an enlarged education would make the sons and daughters *more suitable* companions for each other, and the amount of happiness would be greatly increased. The rank, the notions, the aims, and the efforts, would be more nearly alike. They would be far more contented with that truly honorable and happy condition in which their benevolent Father has placed them. Their children will be provided for in a wiser manner, so that their "sons may be as plants grown up in their youth, and our daughters may be as corner stones polished after the similitude of a palace."

D. C.

Rochester, Feb. 1841.

A DURABLE WHITEWASH.—Before putting your lime, which should be unslacked, into the water, saturate the water with muriate of soda, (common salt.) This will make a whitewash that will not rub off nor crack, and is very lasting.

CURE FOR TOOTH ACHE.—Mix alum and common salt in equal quantities, finely pulverized. Then wet some cotton, large enough to fill the cavity, which cover with salt and alumn and apply it. We have the authority of those who have tested it, to say it will prove a perfect remedy.

To Correspondents.

We thank a *fair incognita* for her letter, but cannot guess out the enigma it contains. We shall wait with impatience the promised answer, and can assure her the favor will be highly appreciated. We hope she will not yet lay aside her useful pen. The errors mentioned were in the copy.

Where is Annette? There have been quite a number of inquiries respecting her of late. Her communications have had a good effect, and we hope she will not abandon us. ☞ We have received a beautiful song, composed in her praise, and set to music. If she will only inform us of her *whereabouts*, we will forward it to her, or call and present it in *propria personæ*.—Ed. Jr.

"Graham's Magazine," and "Godey's Lady's Book."

We are now in the regular receipt of these two elegant periodicals, and as some of our readers are lovers of fashionable literature we would recommend them to their notice. The engravings alone are worth the price of subscription. Wm. A. Herrick is agent at Rochester.

Genesee County Agricultural Society.

We are informed by T. C. Peters, Esq., President of the Society, that, at a meeting held Feb. 10, a list of over 200 premiums was made out for the coming season, and it was decided to hold the annual Exhibition and Fair at Alexander on Wednesday and Thursday, the 13th and 14th of October next. The list of premiums will be circulated in handbill form. C. P. Turner, Esq., is Secretary, Batavia.

State Bounty on Silk.

The Committee of the Assembly, to whom the subject was referred, have reported a bill entitled "An act to encourage the growth and manufacture of Silk." It provides that a bounty be paid, of fifteen cents for each pound of cocoons, and fifty cents for each pound of reeled silk produced in the State. The report is an interesting one, and we will publish it next month, by which time we hope the bill will become a law.

Large Hogs.

Mr. Geo. W. Atwill, of Lima, Livingston Co., slaughtered a sow and nine pigs, the weight of which when dressed, was 4,444 lbs. The pigs were less than eighteen months old. The litter consisted of ten in all; one of them was sold. They were a mixed breed, mostly Leicester and Byfield. The weight of each was as follows:—Sow, 493; Pigs, 466, 454, 370, 541, 430, 445, 397, 406, 442. Total, 4,444. Average, 444 each. Quite a lusty family of porkers!

Another.

Mr. Hendrickson, near Miamisburg, Ohio, has a hog (common breed we suppose) which weighed, in October last, 838 lbs.—about three and a half yea old. He has also a fine full blooded Berkshire boar—particulars not given. Mr. Rogers, of Miamisburg also, has some thrifty pigs—part Berkshires.

Large Pigs.

Mr. Sheldon Cook, of Bergen, Genesee Co., slaughtered 7 pigs, of a cross breed, (Leicester and Berkshire,) only 7 months old, all of one litter,—which weighed, when dressed, 1,500 lbs. The largest weighed 244 lbs. They were not fed corn, excepting about the last two months. Has any body had larger, of no greater age?

More Yet!

Mr. Samuel Lundy, of Waterloo, informs us that he slaughtered 12 spring pigs, Leicester breed; which weighed, when dressed, 3.044 lbs. The 6 oldest were 9½ months old, and weighed 1760 lbs. One of the largest weighed 308 lbs. He challenges the Berkshires to beat this. If the expense of feeding was considered, perhaps the Berkshires would appear to the best advantage; also in the quality of the pork.

"Frank."

Our thanks are due to Messrs. Kimber & Sharpless for three copies of "Frank, or Dialogues between a Father and Son, on the subject of Agriculture, Husbandry, and Rural Affairs," by James Pedder, Editor of the Farmers' Cabinet. We learn that they were forwarded last August, together with a box of the same for a bookseller of this city; but were by some oversight detained on the way. *See advertisement.*

ENGLISH MARKETS.

By the arrival of the Steam Ship Britania at Boston, we have received the Mark Lane Express and other papers of the 1st of February, from our friends in London, for which they have our thanks We observe no material change in the reports of the Markets. Business generally was said to be dull and unsteady. The best brands of United States flour continued to bring 36s per bbl. At Liverpool the demand for cotton had decreased.

NEW YORK MARKET—FEB. 22.

Provisions—There is no change in Beef. Pork is rather firmer; several hundred bbls Ohio Mess have been sold at $11,75, and some lots of Ohio prime at $9,75. New York State Pork is $10 and $12 bbl Small sales of Northern Lard at 7½c; City rendered is held a little higher. Butter, except that of prime quality, is very plenty; and for fair lots in rolls only 8 or 9c can be obtained. Cheese steady in price.

Seeds—Clover is at 8a8½c lb., and rough Flaxseed at $10, 25 tc; 100 tes Timothy sold at $25, and some afterwards at $27 tcc, though this is more than can be certainly calculuted on hereafter.

Ashes—The stock of pots is about 1000 barrels, and of pearls 2650 brls—both sorts sell at $6 per 100 lbs, though nothing of importance was done in pots.

Corn Exchange—The sales of flour have been moderate in extent. Genesee at $4,75, New Orleans at $4,75, Ohio, north about, at $4,88, Georgetown and Howard st. in a very small way at $5. Some shipments were made of various kinds. A mixed parcel of Jersey Corn was sold at 46 cts, and a quantity of rye in the same boat at 56 cts, 56 lbs. These prices are considered rather too low for a quotation Jersey oats sold at 30 cts, and Southern at 26a27 cts per bu.—Sales of cornmeal at $2,75, barrel, and rye flour at $3,25a37.

Cattle Market—At market 540 head of Beef Cattle, including 100 left over last week, 130 was from the South, 120 from the East, and the balance from this State; 124 milch cows, and 1150 sheep.

There was a fair demand for beef, and 540 head were taken at $7 to $9½, averaging $8½ the 100 lbs.

Milch Cows—Former prices were fully maintained, and 100 we e taken at $20, $30, and $40 each.

Sheep were in good demand, and all taken at $3 to $4½ for common, and $5 to $6½ for good.

Hay—The market was well supplied, and the sales were mostly made at 62½ to 69 cts the 100 lbs.

PHILADELPHIA MARKET.

Flour for shipment to England, about 700 bbls. were obtained at $4 50; and part of it delivered at this price. Rye Flour—Fair sales at $3 per bbl. Corn Meal—Sales of Pennsylvania Meal in hhds. at $12 25 for superior casks; for ordinary hhds. the price is 11 50. There has been a steady demand for Clover seed, and upwards of 1200 bushels have been taken at 4 75 to 5 00 per bushel.

ROCHESTER MONEY MARKET.

Specie,	par.	Eastern Funds,	par.
Treasury Notes, 1 pr ct prem.		Indiana,	8 a dis
Eastern Drafts,	1 " do.	Illinois,	8 a do.
Pennsylvania,	6 a 10 dis.	United States,	15 a do
Ohio,	6 a 8 do.	New Jersey,	par a 5 do.
Michigan,	12 a 13 do.	Canada,	6 a do
Maryland,	6 a 10 do.	Suspens'n Bridge,	3 a do.

Agents for the Rochester Seed Store.

A FULL assortment of seeds, put up at the Rochester Seed Store, may be found at each of the following places Subscriptions will also be received there for the "New Genesee Farmer and Gardener's Journal."

Buffalo,.....W. & G. Bryant.
Lockport,.....S. H Marks & Co.
Albion,.....C W Swan
Brockport,.....George Allen.
Scottsville,.....Andrus & Garbut
Le Roy,.....Tompkins & Morgan.
Batavia,.....J V. D. Verplanck.
Attica,.....R. & N. Wells.
Warsaw,.....E. R. Bascom.
Perry,.....L. B. Parsons & Son.
Mount Morris,.....R. Sleeper.
Nunda,.....W M. Chipman.
Geneseo,.....J. F.& G.W.Wyman.
Canandaigua,.....J B. Hayes.
York,.....R. H French.
Geneva,.....A Hemiup
Waterloo,.....Abram Deuel.
Palmyra,.....Hoyt & May.
Syracuse,.....T. B. Fitch & Co.
Utica,.....J. E. Warner.
Oswego,.....D Canfield
Hamilton,.....J A. Mott.
Cooperstown,.....S. Doubleday.

BATEHAM & CROSMAN.

Rochester Seed Store, March 1.

GRASS SEED WANTED.

A VERY HIGH PRICE will be paid for good clean Timothy Seed, delivered soon at the Seed Store.
March 1. BATEHAM & CROSMAN.

CLOVER SEED,

OF EXCELLENT QUALITY for sale at the Seed Store.
March 1. BATEHAM & CROSMAN.

"FRANK,"

"OR Dialogues between a Father and Son, on the subjects of Agriculture, Husbandry and Rural Affairs." This interesting and instructive volume is now for sale by D Hoyt, State st., Rochester. The extracts published in the New Genesee Farmer during the past year, cannot fail to convince the readers of that paper of the value of this book, especially as a present for farmers' children, or young people in the country.
March 1.

AGENCY FOR PERIODICALS.

WM. A. HERRICK, No. 61, Buffalo st., opposite Eagle Hotel, Rochester—Agent for
Godey's Lady's Book,
Graham's Gentleman's and Lady's Magazine,
Littell's Select Reviews,
The New Yorker,
The New World.

GOLD VINE PEAS.

RAISED in Canada by the original producer of this variety, for sale at the Seed Store.
BATEHAM & CROSMAN.

MOUNT HOPE GARDEN & NURSERIES,

ST. PAUL STREET,
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK.

THE Proprietors of this establishment offer for sale an extensive assortment of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Flowering Shrubs, Green House Plants, Bulbous Flower Roots, Double Dahlias, &c. &c.

Gardens laid out, and Gardeners furnished on reasonable notice.—Persons requiring information on any subject connected with the business, will receive a prompt reply.

All orders, letters of inquiry, &c. must be addressed (post paid) directly to us.

Trees, Plants, &c., will be carefully packed, so that they may be carried to any part of the country in safety; and packages will be marked and shipped as may be designated in the order.

Persons with whom the proprietors are unacquainted, are requested to give a satisfactory reference, or name some person in the city of Rochester, who will guarantee the payment. ELLWANGER & BARRY.
Rochester, Dec. 1, 1840.

TIMOTHY SEED WANTED,

At the Rochester Seed Store. BATEHAM & CROSMAN.

ROCHESTER PRICES CURRENT.

CORRECTED FOR

THE NEW GENESEE FARMER, MAR. 1, 1841.

WHEAT,	per bushel,	$	81 a $	
CORN,	"		37½	41
OATS,	"		22	25
BARLEY,	"		31	
RYE,	"		50	
BEANS, White,	"		62½	75
POTATOES,	"		19	22
APPLES, Desert,	"		31	38
" Common,	"		25	31
" Dried,	"		75	88
CIDER,	barrel,		100	150
FLOUR, Superfine,	"		4,25	
" Fine,	"		3,50	3,75
SALT,	"		2,00	
PORK, Mess,	"		10,00	11,00
" Prime,	"		8,00	9,00
" Hog,	100 lbs		3,75	4,00
BEEF,	"		3,50	4,00
POULTRY,	per pound,		6	7
EGGS,	per dozen,		16	18½
BUTTER, Fresh,	per pound		14	16
" Firkin,	"		10	12½
CHEESE,	"		6	7
LARD,	"		7	8
TALLOW, Clear,	"		8	9
HIDES,	"		5	
SHEEP SKINS,	each,		75	87½
PEARL ASHES,	100 lbs.		5,00	
POT,	"		4,50	
WOOL,	pound,		35	40
HAY,	ton,		7,00	8,00
GRASS SEED,	bushel,		1,50	2,00
CLOVER,	"		6,00	7,00
FLAX,	"		75	
PLASTER, (in bbls)	per ton,		6,00	
" bulk (at Wheatland)			3,50	

Remarks—We make but few alterations in our table this month. Business generally is dull—the roads are bad, and very little produce is brought into market. The price of wheat has advanced a trifle, but the quantity brought in is small. The Millers generally are not yet prepared to purchase for spring business. A little pork still comes in and sells mostly at four dollars. Butter, eggs, poultry, &c., are in good demand—supplies moderate.

Clover seed has been brought in liberally from Pennsylvania and Ohio, and the price has declined a trifle. It will probably advance, as sowing time advances. Timothy seed is scarce, and price high at present.